

The Middlebury Campus

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A students' guide to the Middlebury campus.

By Emma Brown '21

Ross: Hot take -- If you can navigate the halls of McCullough, you can make it through the "riot-proof" halls of Ross. (Cartographer's note: I'm still confused.)

Bihall: The sixth-floor greenhouse is an oasis for plant lovers. If you can't keep the succulent in your dorm room alive, this not-so-secret hideaway will satisfy your botany cravings.

Battell Beach: Not actually a beach.

Battell: A dubious reputation clings to this building like the ivy on its walls and the grime on its floors.

Atwater: Scentscape -- cheap beer and disappointing DFMOs.

Atwater Dining: Betcha didn't know so many chairs could fit around one circle table.

Temporary academic space: Flip to Arts & Academics to read about this new addition to campus.

NEWS

Black Studies
Students will be able to declare a Black Studies major for the first time this fall.
Page 2

ARTS

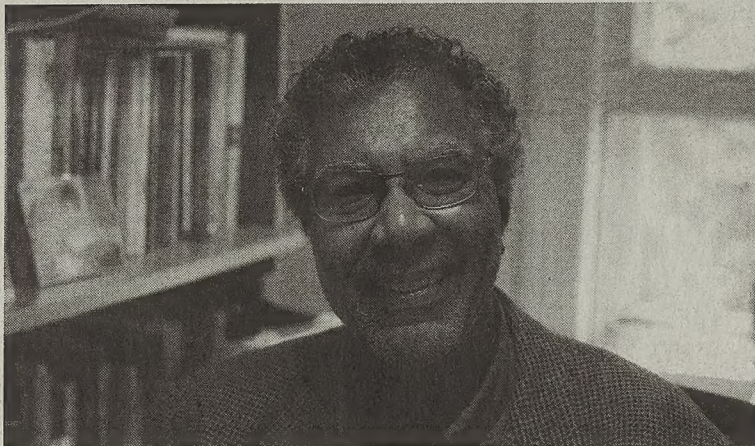
Alumni College draws old hands back to Breadloaf
Alumni returned to Midd for a reminder of their college days this summer.
Page 12

LOCAL

Mad dash for Mad Taco
Popular Vermont taco & beer joint to open new downtown location.
Page 5

Flip to the left side of this sheet to see the other side of College St.

BLACK STUDIES BEGINS INAUGURAL YEAR



SOPH CHARRON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

History Professor and Black Studies Program Director William Hart will teach several courses in the new major this year.

By JAMES FINN
Managing Editor

Middlebury College will offer a Black Studies major beginning this fall, the culmination of years of effort by faculty, students, alumni and administrators to provide students with a major focused on the black experience.

Beginning this semester, students can choose from a broad list of existing courses — 26 this fall, 15 next spring and two during the interim 2020 winter term — that will count towards completion of a Black Studies (BLST) major. Included in this list are popular courses such as History Professor William Hart's African American History class and American Studies Professor J. Finley's course on Black Comic Cultures.

Debate about offering a Black Studies major at Middlebury has been ongoing for years, according to administrators and professors involved in planning the major. An African American Studies minor has been available since 1999, but faculty have long sought to offer a full major that lets students tackle questions of ethnic identity in more depth. According to faculty and administrators involved in planning the major, the current national moment and the right combination of resources at the college were key in making a Black Studies major a reality this fall.

"I can't overstate the significance of Black Studies being offered at an institution that is 219 years old, whose peer institutions all have Black Studies programs in some way, shape or form," Finley said. "Middlebury College is taking steps to deepen and sharpen its curriculum."

The new major also comes after last spring's student campaign to "decolonize" Middlebury's curricula, when organizers called on Middlebury's faculty to better incorporate non-white voices in their curricula. Wengel Kifle '20, one of the campaign's organizers, said that the introduction of a Black Studies program constituted an important step towards this goal.

"It is a wonderful and powerful thing for black students to be able to recognize their experiences and their ancestors in the material of what they are learning," Kifle said. "I believe that it would encourage even more

black students to be more confident and passionate in the realm of western academia."

Students declaring a Black Studies major will be required to take 11 courses, including three "core" courses: a BLST 101 course, a junior seminar on research methods in black studies and a senior seminar. These courses will be available in either the spring or the fall of 2020, Hart said, depending on professor availability. Students will also be required to take either African American History or Intro to African American Culture, both of which are existing courses.

The introduction course was developed by Finley, who specializes in African American studies with a focus on African Diaspora studies. From a pedagogical standpoint, she said, the BLST 101 course will introduce students to sources that seek to convey lived experiences of black people around the world.

"I think approaching Black Studies as a field that is fundamentally rooted in the voices and experiences of black people themselves is something that we all decided should be a central epistemological approach in Black Studies at Middlebury," Finley said.

Aspects of this approach to Black Studies are reflected in some of the courses already available to students. When Hart teaches African American history, for example, he seeks "as rich means as possible" to convey the past. The best way of doing that, he said, is through an interdisciplinary approach.

"In order to understand the black experience, because black culture has such a rich oral-based tradition, I use documents that historians use," he said. "But I also use literature, art, painting, photographs, cartoons and illustrations, film clips and other sources to capture stereotyping of blackness."

As a pedagogical discipline, Black Studies emerged from a push for a broader "ethnic studies" discipline in the late 1960s and early 1970s. In 1968, the Third World Liberation Front — a multi-racial collective of students at the University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco State University — led a five-month strike from classes to demand reform of admissions offices and protest curricula that largely excluded people of color.

Their efforts resulted in the implementation of the country's first Ethnic Studies Department at UC Berkeley, which in turn led Black Studies, Native American Studies, LatinX Studies and Asian American Studies to emerge as their own disciplines.

Just as they did in the Bay Area in the early 1970s, discussions of ethnic studies played a significant role in the emergence of Black Studies at Middlebury. According to Chief Diversity Officer Miguel Fernandez, who helped mediate discussions about how to best create the major, conversations touched on the possibility of offering a broader "Ethnic Studies" major many times before faculty and administrators settled on Black Studies.

Hart said he remembers discussions about offering a Black Studies major taking place as early as 1993, when he first joined the faculty.

Two key factors made Black Studies a reality this fall, Fernandez said. One, the college has enough professors teaching existing courses that could count towards such a major; and two, the current national moment made offering a Black Studies major a priority.

"The topic of race is a sensitive one and a difficult one, and one that our country has not wanted to engage in," Fernandez said. "The last five years have forced this country to talk and think about the black experience in new ways ... There's a greater national consciousness and the need to address it."

More broadly, Hart said that an increased awareness of the importance of ethnic studies in recent years contributed to the major becoming a reality. He pointed to a more diverse faculty, the creation of the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity in 2014, and President Laurie Patton's commitment to inclusivity and diversity as other reasons Black Studies finally became a reality.

Because the three new "core" courses for the major are not yet available, faculty picture younger students as the best candidates for the major, Hart said. As a program in its beginning stages hoping to attract new students, professors stressed that this discipline is intended for Middlebury students of all ethnicities.

"Black Studies is not just for black people, and it never was and it never started as something only for black people," Finley said. "People think that you have to have some sort of biological intimacy with black people or blackness to study black life and culture. That's not the case."

At the academic forum for new students at Kenyon Arena last week, Hart was disappointed when not a single white student stopped to inquire about Black Studies.

"This major is designed for all Middlebury students, not just students of color," Hart said. "Learning other people's histories, cultures, beliefs, values, is one way for this country to heal instead of keeping it bifurcated by keeping certain majors, programs and courses ghettoized."

Students launch externally-funded Middlebury Independent

By SARAH ASCH
Senior News Editor

Two students started a new publication on campus, the Middlebury Independent, which they hope will promote free speech and encourage dialogue about controversial topics. The venture is being funded by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI), an organization that hopes to cultivate conversation in higher education.

Joey Lyons '21 and Quinn Boyle '21, the Independent's founders, are planning to publish their first issue online on Sept. 16, along with several more editions this fall.

Lyons, the journal's editor in chief, said the Independent will fulfill a different role at Middlebury than existing student publications, with long form opinion pieces that respond to current events.

"Ideally, it will become a place where somebody writes an article and somebody else responds with another and it builds from there," he said. "It's not as much fact-based reporting as it is people sharing their perspectives on political issues."

Lyons learned about the ISI this summer and applied for funding. ISI's website promises to "fill the void" in higher education and invites students to "explore intellectual conservatism in a vibrant community of students and scholars." The principles the organization hopes to promote include limited government, individual liberty, the free market economy and the "traditional values" of Judeo-Christianity.

According to Ryan Wolfe, ISI's collegiate network associate, promoting free speech and campus publications goes hand in hand with advocating for "individual liberty."

"We think that editorial independence is important for any publication and free speech and freedom of the press is important, so that's why we have a clause in our grant contract that says we won't tell students what to publish, it's totally up to them," he said. "As long as I've worked here I've never edited an article. I don't think I've seen an article prior to publishing."

Wolfe emphasized that, in his view, ISI is not a political organization.

"We're non-profit, we're non-partisan. We do have principles and one of those principles is individual liberty and part of that is free speech," he said. "We think by sponsoring independent student journalism, we can help the campus free speech climate and promote civil debate and civil discourse."

ISI has just over 50 student publications in their network, including the Claremont Independent, the Dartmouth Review and the UPenn Statesmen. Wolfe said that part of the goal at ISI is to provide places for

young journalists to get experience.

"I think that having good independent journalists in the media is really important and especially if you look at our longer list of alumni most of them got their start on college campuses. It's important to us to keep college journalism alive," he said. "Some of our publications are the only ones printing on their campus."

Alumni of ISI's collegiate programming include reporters and columnists at the New York Times, the Washington Post, ABC News and more. Other notable alumni include Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch, PayPal founder Peter Thiel and conservative commentator Ann Coulter.

In addition to promoting student publications, ISI publishes books and think pieces, offers to help students invite speakers to their schools and hosts conferences.

Lyons said he disagrees with much of what he characterized as ISI's conservative ideology, but that he is not worried that the organization's conservative bend will affect the Independent's content.

"They have that kind of libertarian angle where they're just trying to promote as much free speech and open dialogue as possible," he said. "They're helping us

put together our website ... but in terms of the content they keep their hands off."

Boyle said that part of the decision to apply for ISI funding stemmed from her and Lyons' experiences trying unsuccessfully to secure funding from the college in the past.

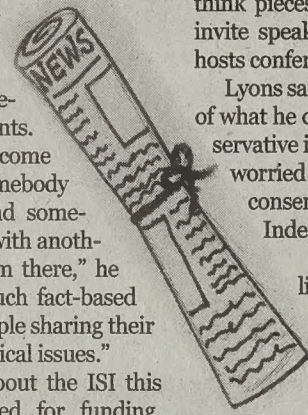
"We decided to go through ISI because it was faster. It was a way to get connected with some really interesting people who are doing some really cool things," she said. "We were hesitant in taking money from the school specifically because both Joey and I have applied for funding in the past and not gotten it so we decided to go through an alternative route."

Lyons wants the Independent to be a space for debate between different perspectives, which he feels can be difficult to find on campus. He and Boyle have already solicited opinion pieces from a variety of students and staff for their first issue.

"I hope to see a place where people can engage with difficult issues without feeling like their voices aren't being heard. Ideally it can be a place where people can learn for themselves and see new ideas and maybe reconsider their preconceived notions," he said. "I don't think there's a place where people can be constantly in discussion on Middlebury's campus."

For her part, Boyle wants the Independent to function as a conversation starter.

"The point of the journal is to show both sides of the issue," she said. "I think that some people will hate it, probably, but I think that most people



Let's run for president: Vijayakumar ready to put her people-focused platform into action

By RILEY BOARD
News Editor

Varsha Vijayakumar '20 knows that being the president of the Student Government Association (SGA) isn't what her family expected her to do in college. Her parents, immigrants from India who settled in the northern New Jersey town of Harrington Park where she was born and raised, saw college as a place to study, excel in classes and secure a good job. But Vijayakumar saw it as so much more; a place where she could learn from her peers and use that knowledge to give back to them through student government.

While she also thinks classes are important, she explained that she has often found the real value of college has been the personal relationships she's built with her peers through extra-curricular activities.

"I think that I've learned so much more from those activities during my time here than I ever have in a classroom," she said.

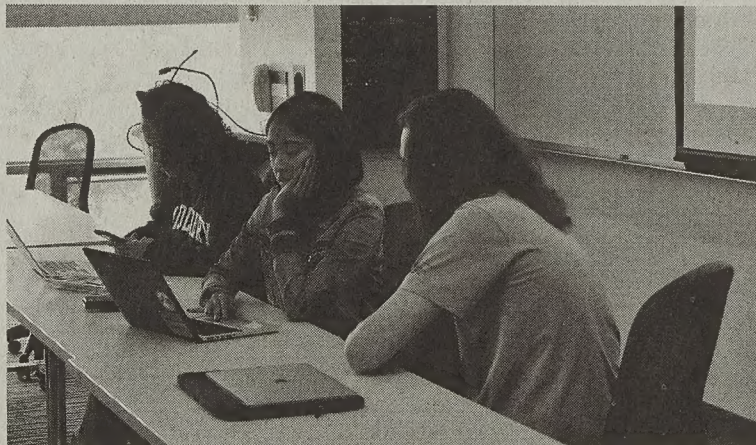
Vijayakumar brought this mentality to her run to office last spring. Her platform, which helped win her 60% of the vote, was generated from direct student input. She created a Facebook event called "Let's Run for President" and set up shop in the back room of Crossroads for hours as students filtered through, throwing down ideas in conversation and onto a collaborative document. Vijayakumar organized the ideas, categorized them and made them her entire platform.

"If the president is supposed to be representing the entire student

body, then the platforms and initiatives that I develop shouldn't be coming from me, they should be coming from the student body," she said.

Vijayakumar sees the SGA not

In a welcome email to the student body this week, Vijayakumar listed some initiatives that SGA began working on over the summer, including improving the course review site MiddCourses, expand-



MAX PADILLA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Incoming SGA president Varsha Vijayakumar (center) focused her campaign on putting student interests first, and plans to put this approach to the test over the next year. Her long term goal is to create sustainable change that outlasts her time in office.

as a body with authority, but rather the link between student concerns and sustainable change enacted by the student government and administrators.

"I can't get every student's input, but I'm going to get as many as I can and develop my platform around that. My platform is our platform," she said.

Her parents have long since come around as well — Vijayakumar said her dad wasted no time bragging about her ascent to the SGA presidency when she won the election last spring.

ing the relationship between the college and the local community, discontinuing Panther Day in favor of the arts festival Nocturne and making it easier for international students to complete summer internships in the U.S.

On the eve of her year-long term as SGA president, Vijayakumar sat down with the Campus to talk about her path through student government, her goals for the year and her hope for significant and lasting change. The interview has been lightly edited for length and clarity.

MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS: How did you end up at Middlebury?

VARSHA VIJAYAKUMAR: I knew that I didn't want to end up as a number, and I felt that if I went to a big university I wouldn't be able to have the same relationships with my peers and I wouldn't be able to know my professors in the same way. Something that has guided my entire life is building relationships with people, and I couldn't imagine letting go of that in college, or ever letting go of that. This is going to sound ridiculous but I got on campus, parked in front of Old Chapel, looked toward Mead Chapel and I felt it in my bones.

My time here has had its ups and downs, but being abroad last fall has really made me appreciate it here. At one point I was missing the salad bar in Ross. This is a place that I've invested so much of myself into. So many people do that, and I've met so many brilliant individuals here that have shaped so much of it, and it's odd being a senior because I'm doing all of it for the last time.

MC: Why did you first decide to become involved in SGA?

VV: I didn't know about elections the first year until after the deadline, but honestly I don't think I would have had the courage to run. However, I was on the Institutional Diversity and Inequity committee my first year and experienced the committee side of things. As sophomore year rolled around, I realized that a perspective like mine was not in SGA. But I still didn't want

to run, and I remember asking so many people if they would run for sophomore senator, but nobody wanted to do it. Then there was this moment where I said, "I guess I'll do it." I don't think, at that point, I'd gotten farther than, "We need certain voices in Senate." I didn't know what was going on there in that body, but nobody wanted to do it. Then I joined, and realized that it was an important body with the ability to make lasting sustainable change if we utilize it correctly, and that was my motivation to stay in it. Then, I became hooked by the scope of opportunities.

MC: When did you know you wanted to run for president?

VV: Last semester, I was of the opinion that if someone could do the job better than me, I didn't need to do the job, but then I realized I was the best person for it. Running was a chaotic process, but also a very rewarding one. The day I announced that I was running, there were at least three people a day coming up to me telling me about things they care about. I started thinking: How can we actually channel this energy into accomplishing things that people care about? And that's how I developed my platform.

MC: What are your first goals in office?

VV: My main vision is to figure out how we can unify: unify the SGA in terms of getting Senate and

Continued on Page 3

Summer News Summary

This summer, Campus editors stayed on top of the news. To read the following stories and others, visit go/campus

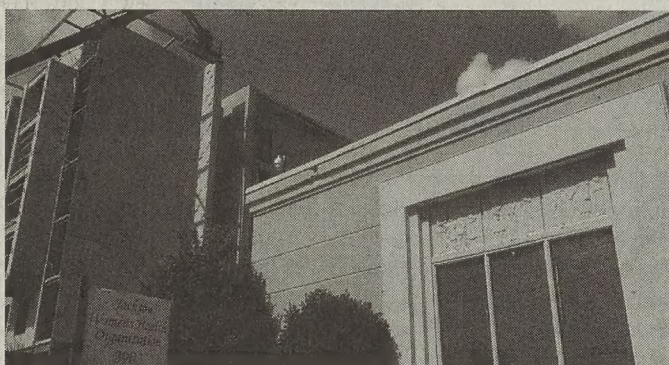
Two Midd students arrested at Never Again protest against ICE



SARAH ASCH/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Two Middlebury College students were among the 20 arrested at a protest against Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Williston, Vt. this summer on July 28. Nico Plume '19.5 and Alec Fleischer '20.5 were cited for disorderly conduct during a demonstration in front of an ICE data center. Story by Sarah Asch.

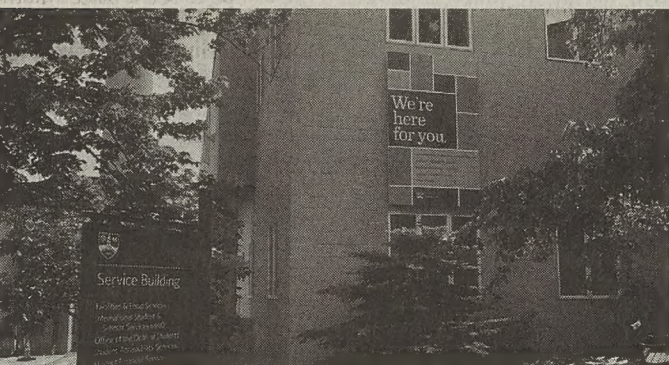
Spotlight on the South



JAMES FINN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

As Middlebury students hunkered down in the library to work on final exams last May, state lawmakers were gearing up to put *Roe v. Wade* to the test. Amidst finals week stress, students shared testimonials and action guides on social media, discussing the implications of the new abortion ban laws. Story by James Finn.

College approves CPT, grants international students option to work in U.S.



SABINE POUX/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The college approved a Curricular Practical Training (CPT) option for international students this past June after major delays from United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) left international students around the country unable to begin their summer jobs in the States. Story by Sarah Asch.

Vijayakumar takes SGA office

Continued from Page 2

Cabinet to have conversations with each other and work hand in hand, but also unify students, and get student opinions in a way that we can streamline effectively so that we can harness student interest in a positive way. How can we then build a better relationship with the administration? How can we unify faculty and staff with students?

WE: All important stakeholders in this community, and a lot of the time we don't really talk to each other. My vision is: How do we find common ground, and how do we work positively from that? My personal goal is to make sure that I can guarantee, come elections in the spring, that I've made a lasting positive impact on this campus.

MC: Do you think that the tension with administration at the end of the last semester has affected the way that SGA functions? Has it affected your perspective on the presidency?

VV: If anything, the mobilization of the 13 Proposals has taught me that, bottom line, regardless of how people felt about the situation, people really cared. Immensely. I've thought much more intensively about this since that situation at the end of the spring, and I want to know how can we channel that energy so that it's not something that bubbles up and is tense and

overwhelming, but so that students can express what's bothering them when it comes up.

We all just want to make this a better place. I don't think that anybody is trying to harm this community. I think keeping that in mind is key, so that we can make the change that students want.

MC: What are some things that you hope have happened by May?

VV: One of my biggest goals is following through on the initiatives that we've already developed and committed ourselves to and institutionalizing them better. When senators and directors come up with initiatives, I want them to be tangible, and something that we can accomplish. Everyone wants change but nobody is willing to do the work. The dream is that we can be this body that identifies and fills the gaps.

We don't claim to be an authority in any way. But there are faculty and staff and administrators who dedicate their entire lives to solving issues. We want to be a body that supports everyone's growth and grows along with them. I don't see the work I'm doing as something confined to a year, especially because I see a lot of what we're doing as maintaining continuity through the years, so it shouldn't matter that my tenure is up in a year. My work should be continued by the future SGA president.

LET'S TALK ABOUT SPECS, BABY

By SADIE HOUSBERG
Managing Editor

SPECS (Sex Positive Education for College Students), a student organization focused on sex positive peer education, initiated new programming for this semester's first-year orientation week on Sept. 4.

The group hosted an information table in Axinn with boxes of condoms, lubricant, dental dams, and different contraceptive devices and safe sex devices, according to MiddView Orientation Intern Niki Kowsar '21.5.

"You generally see condoms and know what they are but for other products you might not know much about it," Kowsar said. "It was really interesting to learn more about them."

The event was one of 13 optional activities for incoming students, and was aimed at spreading the word about what resources SPECS has to offer, Peer Sex Educator Emma Brown '21 said.

The impetus for SPECS came out of a class project and first became a club in 2017, said Peer Sex Educator Anna Durning '19.5. The group underwent several iterations before becoming a group under the supervision of Barbara McCall, Director of Health and Wellness Education.

"Sex positivity is a counter approach to mainstream shaming and abstinence-only sexual health education curricula," McCall wrote in an email to the Campus. "It means acknowledging that sexuality and sexual expression can be a normal, healthy part of people's lives."

SPECS delves into subjects, like pleasure, that may have been ignored or brushed aside in high school or previous sex-ed experiences, Brown said. She also emphasized the group's focus on consent and sex education beyond the traditional, heteronormative curriculum.

However, the discretionary, drop-in format of the orientation event did not allow for substantial programming, and only four new students



COURTESY OF NIKI KOWSAR

Peer Sex Educators Anna Durning '19.5, Ella Houlihan '21 and Isabelle Lee '20 hosted a MiddView information session of sex positive peer education.

visited the table, Durning said.

"I was really excited to learn that SPECS was given permission to participate in orientation, but disappointed when I found out that our event had to be during the optional, drop-in activity time," Durning said.

SPECS members felt that orientation would have been an opportune time to institute a mandatory sex ed workshop and reach more new students.

Said Durning, "Given the nature of the workshops, students can find it embarrassing to choose to attend them so making them mandatory would erase the social pressure that keeps people from turning up."

But the group was still able to have productive conversations with students and put together a "build-your-own safer sex kit" activity at the event, Durning said.

Ella Houlihan '21, another Peer Sex Educator, was also disappointed that SPECS did not receive mandatory slots for this year's first-year events but remains optimistic about the (sex) positive influence the group can have moving forward.

McCall did not comment on the details of how SPECS was designated an optional rather than mandatory activity for orientation, but said she

would like to see the group continue to participate in the coming years.

"It's important for every student to have medically accurate, non-judgmental and age-appropriate information about their bodies and safer sex practices," McCall said. Students go to each other with questions first, she said, so SPECS gives peer educators a chance to address those concerns and provide resources.

Kowsar and SPECS Peer Sex Educators said they're hopeful the student organization will take on a more significant role during future first-year orientation weeks.

SPECS plans to keep collaborating with ResLife and with the Student Government Association's Sexual and Relationship Respect Committee to make sure that all students can receive consent workshops, Durning said.

Students can expect to see other programming in the coming months, including pleasure and communication workshops and trivia nights in Atwater Dining Hall. SPECS will also conduct first-year dorm workshops and is accepting requests from sports teams, social houses and other groups on campus to facilitate workshops.

FACULTY, CURRICULUM CHANGES PLANNED FOR UPCOMING YEAR

By NORA PEACHIN
News Editor

RETIRING FACULTY

Over the next few years, Middlebury will see significant turnover in faculty and staff due to the college's workforce planning initiative.

President Laurie L. Patton announced in June 2018 that the college would be offering its faculty elective, incentive-based retirement plans, often called "buyouts." Currently, 24 professors have signed agreements to participate in the Faculty Retirement Incentive Program (FRIP).

FRIP is intended to save the college money because new tenure-track faculty can be paid lower salaries than professors who have held tenure for many years, as previously reported by the Campus. The FRIP package includes a year's salary, funds for scholarship and research for up to three years after retirement, and establishment of a Health Reimbursement Account for health care.

This past May, the first round of FRIP participants were honored at a reception at the Mahaney Arts Center with other retiring faculty.

Professor of English and Liberal Arts John Bertolini decided to retire this year for health reasons and was happy to take the "generous offer" he received through FRIP. "I had been thinking I would go on associate status for a few years, but when the buy out became possible, I took the plunge," Bertolini told the Campus last spring.

He began teaching at Middlebury in 1975 and was joined at the college by his wife, Mary Ellen Bertolini, in 1993. Bertolini expects changes in faculty to come with changes to the English and American Literature Department offerings, as the classes he taught disappear from the offered curriculum and new courses take their place.

Peter Hamlin, a professor of music, also retired last May. Hamlin said the incentive program was not a factor in his decision to retire, but that he did "get a small amount based on a formula [the college] used."

Hamlin is looking forward to having more time in retirement to sail, swim, snowboard, cross-country ski, travel and learn Spanish with his wife.

NEWLY-TENURED FACULTY
Keegan Callanan, assistant

professor of political science, and Daniel F. Silva, assistant professor of Portuguese, were both offered tenure last May.

Silva described the experience of achieving tenure as both painful and joyful.

"I found myself mourning all who I left behind, because achieving 'success,' in academia or otherwise, while coming from communities like mine, often and sadly implies an involuntary divorce from home," he said.

Silva will serve as interim director of the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity, while teaching International Global Studies 101 this fall.

"Through both capacities, I hope to continue finding a place here and working so that others of marginalized experiences may also find a place here," he said.

Callanan is teaching two thematic courses this fall, one on problems at the intersection of religion and politics, and the other on the relationship between power and justice in international relations.

Tenure was developed in American universities to protect professors' freedom of inquiry and speech, Callanan wrote in an email to the Campus.

"The intuition behind the practice is that the vocation of a scholar entails the pursuit of truth, and this pursuit should be undertaken without the risk of losing one's livelihood as a consequence of reaching unpopular conclusions. Luckily, I hold no unpopular views, so tenure is a formality in my case."

Callanan feels having tenure will positively impact his work as a professor.

"Tenure affords the scholar time — time to develop thoughts patiently, without being bound by short-term demands for results," he said. "This enables a certain kind of intellectual risk-taking that would be rarer without tenure."

The Board of Trustees also promoted nine associate professors to the rank of professor. Rebecca Bennette, one of the newly promoted instructors, explained this review occurs after five to eight years of associate professorship, and can mean a salary boost as well as eligibility for various positions and committees.

SOAN SPLIT
Sociology and Anthropology,

formerly one joint department, are now two separate departments, each with its own major offerings. This decision was made at the May faculty meeting, according to Dean of Curriculum Suzanne Gurland.

"Anthropology and sociology have always been different disciplines, but communicating that difference to students was always difficult in a joint department," said Professor James Fitzsimmons, the chair of the new Anthropology Department.

As Fitzsimmons explained, both disciplines have diversified their offerings, they've grown increasingly separate, to the point where splitting made the most sense.

"Instead of being buried — yes, I'm an archaeologist, so pun intended — under joint departmental requirements, our anthropology students are going to be able to pursue a subfield or even sample them all," Fitzsimmons said. He believes the split means his department will be able to diversify its curriculum, make study abroad easier and further develop subfields.

The separate departments will allow for "more disciplinary depth," according to Linus Owens, Sociology Department chair. Owens added that Middlebury was the only one of its peer colleges in the Nescac league with a shared department and major before the switch.

FOOD STUDIES MINOR

Faculty also voted to approve a new Food Studies minor at their May meeting.

The minor will include two introductory courses, a seminar course or independent study, and two courses selected from other disciplines including social sciences, health and humanities or natural sciences and geography, said Molly Anderson, academic director of the Food Studies Program. All minors will also participate in experiential learning.

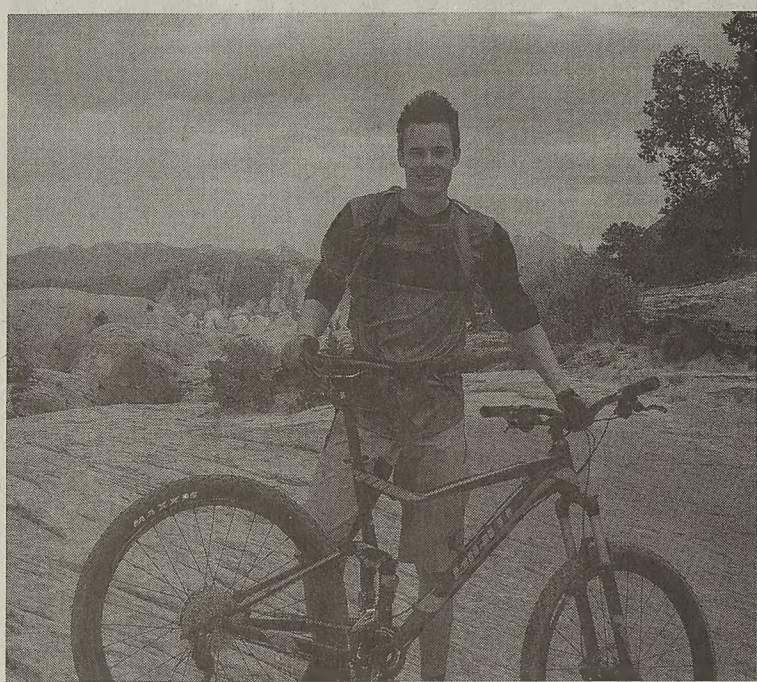
Anderson sees the minor as "a way that students who are interested in food issues can dig deeper and get recognition for their work."

Said Anderson, "Food Studies are important because food is connected with almost every discipline in one way or another. The ways that we produce, consume and waste food can either contribute to huge environmental and social problems or be part of the solutions."

IN MEMORIAM

This summer, the Middlebury community lost two beloved members: Eric Masinter '21 and long-time basketball coach Russ Reilly. Read about the impact of their lives on campus and beyond in the tributes below.

Eric Masinter: A brother reflects on love and loss



COURTESY PHOTO

By JESSE MASINTER
Class of 2019

On the Tuesday after I found out that my brother had died by suicide, one of my students told me that his best friend was his sunshine; she was his light when he felt himself surrounded by darkness. Eric was not like the warmth of sunshine. Eric was my moonlight—that cool, beautiful brilliance that perfectly complements the starry darkness of the universe. He was an ever-changing yet constant presence that filled me with wonder at the creative capacity of the human soul.

I started to draw and paint and write because he drew, and painted, and wrote—because once we were sitting on the thin mattress

of his college dorm-room bed and I lamented the insignificance of human life, lamented that we are just specks of dust crying out into the void and so often we leave nothing behind but a few memories. And he was flipping through his sketchbook as he sat at the bench of his electric piano and he said—look, this is me, crying out into the void.

He cried out into the void in a voice tinged with the comic absurdity of his melodica, an instrument that ridiculously combines a mouth nozzle with a miniature keyboard. Unnecessary. Absurd. Hilarious. And beautiful for being a combination of those qualities. Eric loved that melodica because he knew it was the result of trying to create meaning in

a universe without any meaning at all, and he was someone who fundamentally understood the importance of creating your own meaning.

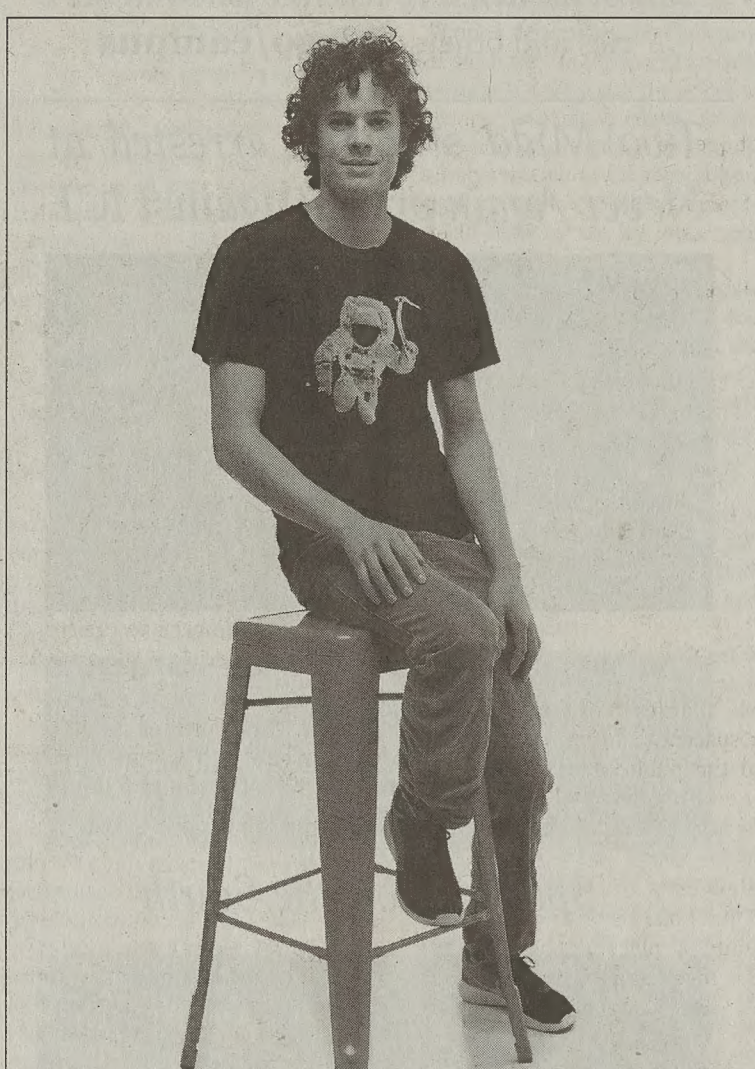
Even though his striving has ceased, I will forever be grateful for the inspiration he gave me to cultivate my own creativity, to unabashedly pursue something that other people don't consider valuable, because you love the process of striving.

Like staring up at the moon, there were times he felt just out of reach. As we spent this last year together at Middlebury, I saw him growing into the kind of man I didn't just love as a brother, but a person I deeply enjoyed being around—a talented young man with varied passions and an edge of cynical humor that put the world in a new perspective. And it hurts beyond words to know that I lost him just as I was getting to know him.

I hate when people tell me things will get better. Because love and suffering go hand in hand, and if I ever cease to suffer at the loss of him, I will have ceased to love him. And that, I refuse to do.

Editors' note: Eric Masinter '21 died by suicide July, 2019. Eric took his life during a cross-country road trip returning to his home in Colorado from Middlebury, according to an all-school email from President Laurie L. Patton sent on July 11.

Eric is survived by his parents, Rob '86 and Kathy, and siblings Jess '19 and Sarah, U.S. Air Force Academy '21. He was pre-



COURTESY PHOTO

viously a contributing writer to the Campus.

Those of us on the editorial board who worked with Eric were heartbroken by this news. Eric displayed thoughtful writing ability through the valuable contributions he made to the news and features sections of

this paper. During his time at the Campus, Eric's reporting focused on the greater Middlebury community, covering the achievements of alumni and students. We as a board would like to express our deepest sympathies to the Masinter family and to Eric's close friends.

Beloved basketball coach Russ Lewis Reilly dies at 74

By JAMES FINN
Managing Editor

Russ Lewis Reilly, a beloved assistant men's basketball coach and former athletic director at Middlebury College, died surrounded by family at his New Haven home on July 24.

As a "pillar of the community" who drove the athletic department's success, in the words of Athletic Director Erin Quinn, Reilly worked for Middlebury athletics for more than 40 years. He served as the head men's basketball coach from 1977 to 1996, then as athletic director from 1997 until his retirement in 2006. After retiring, he spent 13 years as a volunteer assistant coach for the men's basketball team.

Those who interacted with Reilly within the sphere of Middlebury athletics saw him as an exceptionally considerate and thoughtful presence, known as much for the kindness he showed players and colleagues as for his sincere love for sports. He pushed for equality between men's and women's athletics, was a lead caretaker for Butch Varno (a longtime Middlebury resident and Panthers fan who suffers from cerebral palsy), and was a regular attendee of other sports games as a spectator and announcer.

"Having Russ on staff was truly a blessing for me and the program," said Head Men's Basketball Coach Jeff Brown. "I will miss his wisdom, kindness, generosity and humor, but his positive spirit will remain with the many people that call him a friend."

As a player for the men's basketball team, I had the honor of being coached by Reilly for two years. Like everyone else on our team, what I will remember most about Coach Russ is the infectious positivity he brought to our practices every day. As players would stretch during warmups before



COURTESY PHOTO

each practice, he was fond of checking in with each of us individually. He always did so with thoughtfulness and sincerity, asking about families, classes and local sports teams.

"He would always ask how I was doing, and I would answer with a 'Good, how are you?,' said Jack Farrell '21, a member of the team. "Every single day he would respond, 'that's the only way to be'. It wouldn't matter what was happening that day — nothing could get in the way of his ability to spread positivity."

Reilly was unrelentingly upbeat, though never overpoweringly so, which was perhaps part of the reason his optimism was so appreciated by his players; he was always understanding when the frustrations that come with a grueling four-month

season reared their heads. But when we became frustrated, he was there to offer gentle and genuine reminders of the gift we've been given in having the opportunity to play a game we love, and one that was so dear to him.

"I could truly talk to him about everything and anything and I always admired the positive attitude he had every day," said Eric McCorr '19, a captain of last year's team.

As an assistant, Reilly developed an affinity for working with the team's post players, referred to sometimes as "bigs" — centers and power forwards, positions where physicality and hard work are calling cards. He ran position-breakdown workouts for big men in practice that quickly became "one of the most important parts" of practice, Brown said.

"Our approach was to have Russ coach a team within a team," Brown said. "He developed our post players masterfully, but he also impacted all the players in our program."

After our 15-minute workout we would huddle up, and Reilly would deliver his favorite mantra: "Good, better, best, never ever rest, till the good gets better and the better gets best." Every Middlebury big man who plays on the team now has a shirt with that slogan written down the back.

Matt Folger '20, a three-year starter and captain for the men's basketball team this upcoming season, remembers designing a shirt emblazoned with the "good, better, best" slogan and preparing to gift it to Reilly, only to find that Reilly had been one step ahead.

"Just a few days before it was scheduled to arrive, we walked on the bus to go to an away game, and he was sitting on the bus with a large box," Folger said. "He called us over and gave us all t-shirts with that exact quote on it. We were shocked that he had beat us to our own idea, but we gave our own shirt to him a few days later and he still loved what we had done. I laugh about it to this day."

Fiercely loyal to his players and fellow coaches, Coach Russ also had a fiery side.

"I think sometimes he took it personally when I would criticize in our coaches meetings how one of the bigs played the day before, which I always thought was funny," said Kyle Dudley '09, who joined the men's basketball as Brown's lead assistant in 2013 after spending his college years playing for Reilly and Brown.

"There is something special about a veteran coach questioning the toughness of a 20-year-old or expressing his dislike of the color purple, like he did in 2011 when we beat Amherst and Williams in a weekend to win the Nescac Championship," Brown said.

Mostly, though, the men's basketball program and athletic community will remember Coach Russ for his penchant for fostering close, caring relationships with those who played the game he loved. Coach Russ was fond of inviting players to his home for dinner — he hosted an annual "bigs' dinner" each February, an occasion where freshmen big men are first given their "good, better, best" shirts.

Some of my best college memories were made on Thanksgiving with Coach Reilly's family. As one of the few players on our team not from New England, I'm not able to make it home for Thanksgiving and be back in time for post-Thanksgiving practices. In November of 2017, when I was a freshman on the team, Coach Reilly realized this before I did, and invited

me to his family's Thanksgiving dinner after the very first practice of our season.

Last Thanksgiving I was invited back to the Reillys' home where I was joined by Will Ingram '21, from Dallas, and Matt Folger. We played Monopoly with Coach Russ' grandkids, Russell and William, and ate some of the best Thanksgiving food imaginable in front of a window that looked out on the Adirondack mountains.

Coach Reilly and his wife, Jane, welcomed us like family. The kindness they showed me those two Thanksgivings turned what easily could have been dark holidays away from home into some of my fondest college memories.

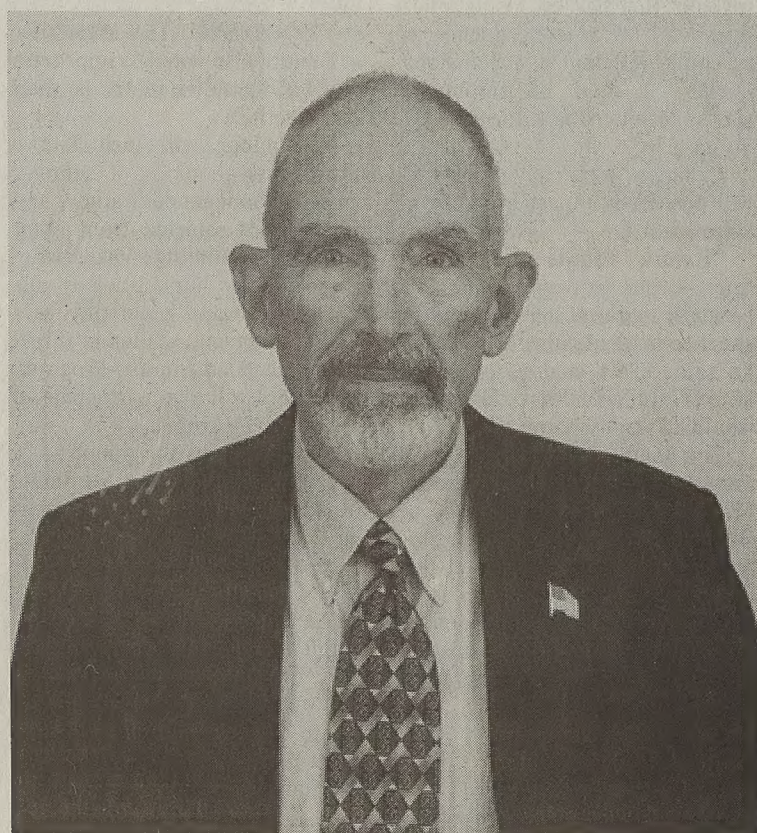
My teammates and I were recipients of Coach Reilly's kindness every day, and got to see it more up-close and personal than most. But the impression he made on the broader Middlebury community was still personal and profound for all he interacted with.

"Russ' impact cannot be defined by any particular role or job he held over his long tenure at Middlebury," Quinn said. "It is defined more by his sense of humor, sense of service, and his integrity, regardless of his role."

A celebration of life for Russ Reilly will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019 at 3 p.m. at Mead Chapel, followed by a reception in Pepin Gymnasium.



COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

Mad Taco and kindred eateries to fill the Old Stone Mill

By HATTIE LAFAYOUR
Local Editor

"What does Middlebury need?" That is the question that the Old Stone Mill at 3 Mill St. has answered over time, as its tenants have come and gone with shifting town demands. Now, the answer to that question is Mexican food, and the Old Stone Mill plans to deliver.

Starting in October, Vermont-based taqueria Mad Taco will take over the downstairs restaurant space formerly occupied by Storm Café. The second floor will house The Arcadian To Go, Dedalus Wine Shop, interior designer Slate Home and Lost Monarchs Coffee in a public marketplace.

The Old Stone Mill was purchased from the college earlier this year by Community Barn Ventures, a firm owned by Middlebury businesswomen Stacey Cullinane and Mary Rainey. The building has since undergone extensive renovations in order to fit their vision for the space. In addition to Mad Taco and the public market, the third floor will serve as a collaborative membership-based workspace, and the fourth floor will hold four Airbnb units.

"We hope to bring to the community a place where they can come together and celebrate where they live," Rainey said. "Where they can have access to high-quality products and experiences that were otherwise difficult to have access to here in Middlebury."

Mad Taco owners Joey Nagy and Wes Hamilton opened the restaurant's first location in Waitsfield in 2010 and have since expanded to Montpelier and Essex. Known for its smoked meats and strong margaritas, the restaurant's Middlebury branch will offer a full menu of tacos, burritos, enchiladas and more, made with fresh ingredients from Nagy's own Marble Hill Farm. The space will hold about 25 seats, and the outside deck has been expanded to fit picnic tables.

"To have Mexican food in an



A rendering of the Old Stone Mill by Community Barn Ventures shows a new stair tower on the west side. The new building includes community office space, a taco restaurant and residential areas.

COURTESY PHOTO

iconic building on a great deck overlooking the Otter Creek River with your friends and family surrounding you? It's going to make for a perfect afternoon," Rainey said. Cullinane and Rainey believe that Mad Taco's emphasis on local food systems aligned perfectly with their goals for the Old Stone Mill.

"Our company was started because we wanted to help local businesses grow and support the economic underpinning of this community," Rainey said.

After several town businesses closed over the last year, the pair sought to minimize the risks for the shops they will introduce. The Daily Grind coffee shop, which replaced Carol's Hungry Mind after its closure last year, was forced to shut its doors less than a year after opening due to lack of staffing. The public marketplace will mitigate this concern by employing a joint check-out counter to be used by

every shop, with the exception of Lost Monarchs Coffee.

"That was part of what we saw as a key piece to attract some vendors to come down here – that they wouldn't have to staff that space," Cullinane said.

**"We all have to
work together to
meet the needs of
our local customer
base."**

The Arcadian, an Italian restaurant that proved successful after opening last fall in the space formerly occupied by the Lobby, will offer a small-scale rendition of

their signature fresh meats and house-baked bread in the form of to-go sandwiches and other items.

The restaurant's owners, Caroline and Matt Corrente, also follow the shop-local ethos, using as many Vermont-produced ingredients as they can. "In a small town like this, we all have to work together to help meet the needs of our local customer base," Matt Corrente said.

"The goal is just to develop a reputation for consistency and to really establish ourselves as a place where people feel like they can make a habit of coming to."

Lost Monarch Coffee will offer to-go drinks and snacks to the marketplace's shoppers. The store is a sister of Royal Oak Coffee, which was opened in Middlebury by owners Matthew and Alessandra Delia-Lobo in May of this year.

Dedalus Wine Shop, a Burlington-based store offering a wide variety of wines as well as cheeses

and charcuterie, will occupy two stalls of the public marketplace. The store prides itself on stocking goods for many different price points, including bottles under \$25. Dedalus will also offer wine clubs and catering.

The Burlington-based design firm Slate Home will also be found in the public marketplace, offering home decoration products and services. The store's website advertises that the store is a place to shop local. "We care about what we buy and to whom we sell, about our spaces, our connections and each other," it reads. Slate Home will be designing the four Airbnb units that will be found on the top floor of the Stone Mill. One of the units will feature a handicap-friendly bathroom, and all levels will be accessible by elevator.

The addition of such features was one of the most significant part of the renovations undertaken by Community Barn Ventures, who ensured that the entire building was ADA-compliant. In addition to the elevator, the building will also be equipped with wheelchair-friendly entryways and outdoor spaces.

The third floor will be an open-space workplace that will boast high-speed WiFi, chairs, desks, conference rooms, printers, scanners and office supplies that will be available to members 24 hours a day. Along with the collaborative workspace, the floor will also hold two personal offices up for rental. Applications to access the space will be collected this month.

Overall, the greatest challenge that Cullinane and Rainey faced was getting everything done quickly. Construction began in April and the Stone Mill is on track to open in October. "The sooner, the better," Cullinane said, emphasizing that she wanted the shops to be open for Vermont's beautiful fall season.

"There's just a lot of good stuff going on in Middlebury," Rainey added. "And I'm excited for adding to that."

Addison County Planning Commission receives feedback on Triangle Bike Loop

By BENJAMIN GLASS
Local Editor

In recent months, the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) has worked to gauge local communities' critiques of the

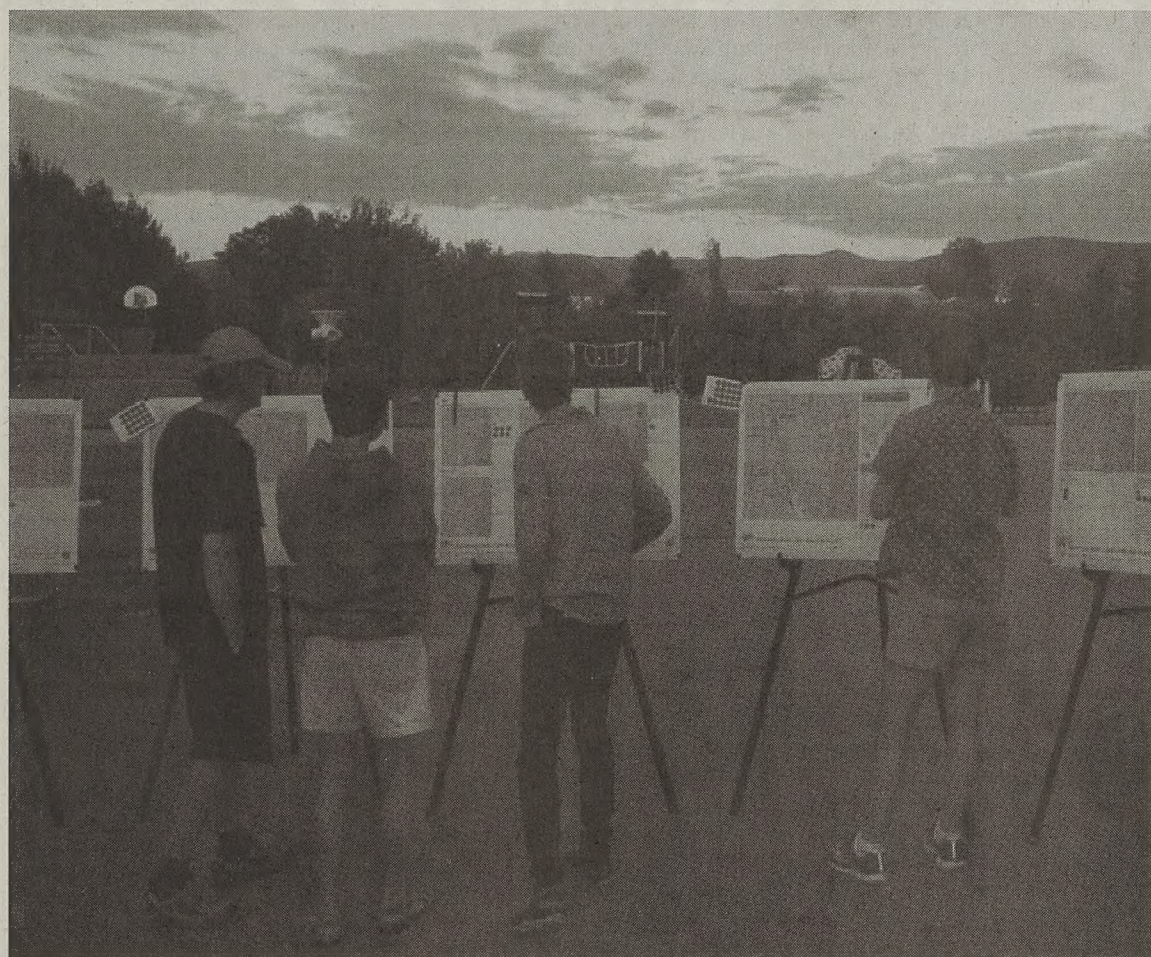
needed particular focus for future upgrades to make them more walk-bike friendly."

Winslow also said there has not been much criticism of any sections of the bike path plans so far.

"People have been very receptive,"

tendees to add to the route.

Next steps for the project include finalizing a proposed route, which is the job of the SE Group, the consulting firm that is spearheading the project. Winslow said the SE Group is "reviewing traffic and safety data



COURTESY PHOTO

Community members were able to critique and show support for the ACRPC's proposed Triangle Bike Loop on August 15 outside the New Haven townhall. The ACRPC estimated that more than 50 people attended the Open House.

proposed Triangle Bike Loop, an initiative to update a network of roads between Middlebury, Vergennes and Bristol in order to further accommodate cyclists. Three weeks ago, on Aug. 15, the ACRPC held an Open House outside the New Haven Town Hall, where locals showed up to look at maps of the route and offer their opinions.

Mike Winslow, transportation planner for the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, estimated around 55 people attended the event.

"The plans were very well perceived [at the Open House]," Winslow said. "Folks were able to provide some input as to their preferred routes and identify any locations along the routes that were worth visiting or areas that

he said. "This might be because we have been really good about reaching out to bikers and walkers. The bikers are very excited."

In a summary of the event written by the SE Group, the project's lead consulting firm, attendees pointed out around 15 points of interest on the proposed routes, including resources like public bathrooms and Frog Hollow bike shop in Middlebury and a farmer's market and ice cream shop in Vergennes. A few attendees noted proposed roads that were too busy, including Route 17 and Route 116. The majority of attendees said they would use the bike path for recreational riding and commuting, and prefer paved roads to dirt roads. There were also six additional roads proposed by at-

to make their recommendations." In terms of infrastructure, Winslow said the SE Group is investigating things like large road signage, fog lines on roads, and widening dangerous sections of road.

There is still opportunity for community members to offer opinions and criticisms on the Triangle Bike Path loop website. Community members are encouraged to take the bike path survey.

Another open house event may occur, with a date and place to be determined. The ACRPC continues to develop the Triangle Bike Loop project under the help of the SE Group Consulting Firm this fall, and hopes to finalize a route proposal by February 2020.



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Hunger Free Vermont fights proposed changes to federal food assistance program

By NORA PEACHIN
News Editor

On July 23, the Trump administration announced a proposal to drastically alter the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps. Their proposed changes would revoke benefits for 3.1 million Americans and over 13,000 Vermonters.

For 20 years, 43 states including Vermont have employed an option within SNAP called 'broad-based categorical eligibility.' The administration is trying to eliminate it with this proposal.

This option makes 3SquaresVT, the Vermont name for SNAP, "even more effective and responsive to the needs of food insecure Vermonters," according to a news release by non-profit organization Hunger Free Vermont in August. It allows states to expand access to SNAP to more low-income people, by giving states more flexibility with the gross monthly income limit.

In order to be eligible for SNAP, households must fall under the federal limit, which is 130% of the poverty level. With broad-based

categorical eligibility, states can raise the limit. "It allows states to really align the income limit with the need in the state," said Drake Turner, Food Security Advocacy Manager at Hunger Free Vermont. In Vermont, it's currently set at 185% of the federal poverty level.

"The federal government says they're trying to close a loophole, but that's really misrepresenting what broad based categorical eligibility is," Turner said.

Hunger Free Vermont explains that the option is "a provision used by our state to help 3SquaresVT reach households that are working and may have slightly higher incomes but significant expenses (such as high housing, medical, and childcare costs)."

All households are still required to apply to SNAP and meet the same requirements as anyone else in order to receive benefits.

Last December, Congress passed a bipartisan Farm Bill that considered and rejected the change the Trump administration is now attempting to make. So, the administration is trying a different avenue, one which allows them to bypass Congress.

"This proposal is another in a

long line of actions by this administration to demonize low-income Americans and keep them from applying for programs that help them and their families get what they need to thrive," said Anore Horton, Executive Director of Hunger Free Vermont, in an article published by the organization.

The broad-based eligibility option "has become a key part of the SNAP program over the last two decades," Turner said, "so states will have to spend a lot of money to change in accordance with the rule, if it goes into effect."

Turner is also concerned about free school meals. The proposed rule would "jeopardize more than 500,000 children's access to free school breakfast and lunch," according to the Food Research and Action Center.

Children whose households receive SNAP benefits are automatically eligible for free school meals. If their households lose SNAP benefits, they may lose free school meals because of differing requirements, or have to apply separately for free meals.

This will also impact community eligibility, which allows high-poverty schools to offer free breakfast

and lunch to all students if at least 40% of their students are certified for free meals without an application. Most students who fall under this category are certified for school meals through SNAP.

"These kids already don't have enough to eat, and now they'll be even hungrier. This will impact their ability to grow and learn. Is this how we want to steward the future generation?" asked Jeanne Montross, Executive Director of Middlebury-based nonprofit Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (HOPE).

SNAP has been proven to reduce hunger, help bring people out of poverty, and lead to positive short and long-term health, education, and employment outcomes.

"If the Trump Administration was truly concerned about food insecurity, it would be working to increase wages and improve access to housing, health care, and food assistance, instead of repeatedly proposing severe cuts to programs that support low-income Americans," reads an article on the Hunger Free Vermont website. All in all, \$7.5 million in benefits coming into Vermont would be lost per year with the proposed change.

Lily Bradburn, Local Food Access Coordinator at HOPE, is concerned that something as simple as losing SNAP benefits could significantly hurt individuals struggling with poverty, potentially even pushing them towards worse situations than before.

Before the rule can be passed, the Trump administration is required to collect and review public comments about the impact of the proposed change. So, Hunger Free Vermont is fighting it with a campaign to encourage people to submit comments.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture must review every single submission before a final decision is made by the government. There have been collections of public comments that have had substantial impacts in the past, said Turner. "Also, the comments create a record of public opposition," she added, "so it can be proven that the given decision is going against the will of the people."

The deadline to submit comments is Sept. 23. More information about the campaign and instructions for submitting comment are available at www.hungerfreevt.org/protect3squaresvt.

Between semesters: Markosian and Ganda reflect on summer internships in Middlebury

By ALLY MURPHY
Local Editor

For many Middlebury students, the summer provides a time for deeper immersion into the Middlebury and greater Vermont community. Leila Markosian '21 and Imran Ganda '20 each spent their summers in Middlebury and spoke to the Campus about their experiences. Markosian interned at The New England Review, a literary magazine published by the college. Ganda completed an internship with Middlebury's Privilege and Poverty program, which connects students with vulnerable populations in Addison County and nationwide.

MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS: Who did you work for this summer?

LEILA MARKOSIAN: I worked for the New England Review, supervised by Carolyn Kuebler, Marcy Pomerance and Eli Sutton.

IMRAN GANDA: I worked for a nonprofit, social services organization called HOPE, which stands for Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects. The organization provides numerous services for low-income residents and families in Addison County. It's best known for its food surplus area and food shelf, providing fresh produce, bread, desserts, meats, pastas and other goods for no cost, thanks to donations from Hannaford, Shaw's and other community members and agencies.

There's a resale store as well that helps clients secure clothes for kids, uniform clothing, appliances, and other household items through HOPE vouchers. They also work with people struggling with chronic homelessness to secure housing, helping pay back rent and bills, as well as working with other local agencies to provide residents with assistance, [working with organizations such as] WomenSafe to help a client relocate for safety reasons, by securing a room at the Sugarhouse Motel.

MC: What was your role and your day-to-day schedule?

LM: I was one of two summer interns, and my tasks for NER var-

ied from day to day. I would update their website with posts announcing new books by authors previously published in the journal; I learned how to format short stories and poems published online; I read fiction submissions and discussed these stories with other readers; and I worked with my amazing fellow intern to produce two episodes of the NER Out Loud Podcast.

IG: There were a variety of tasks that kept me busy this summer. I mainly worked in the front office where I greeted clients, tracked the number of clients coming in to access the food surplus shelf via Excel, help schedule appointments with caseworkers, secure clothing vouchers for the resale store and guiding them through the food shelf. I also kept track of incoming food donations from different agencies and individuals.

MC: What were some of the biggest takeaways from your experience?

LM: One of my biggest takeaways from this internship was how vast the world of literary journalism is. Between all of the writers, editors, publishers, and readers, there is a massive network of people working to cultivate a true love of literature that I definitely took for granted before this summer. It was exciting to see how many people were invested not only in NER, but also in other magazines as well as the individual careers of authors.

IG: As someone who wants to end up working with domestic policy at some point, this internship was a great resource for insight. The way I see it, policy centers and think tanks often times create much of the rules and regulations that get rolled out to agencies like HOPE to provide services to people. Having seen the way things could play out on the ground, I felt like I was working backwards now that I'm equipped with a better understanding of how the agencies that implement policies—which are more often than not created with specific goals in mind—actually function.

Social work is tough, and the people I worked with were not fairly compensated, in my opinion. The internship exposed me to the emotional weight of social service jobs that ultimately seem never-ending.



COURTESY PHOTO

One of Imran Ganda '20's responsibilities during his internship at Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (HOPE) was helping with the organization's food shelf.

The people I worked with spoke about thinking about clients and certain cases while they were off duty or even on vacation. It's intimate work that can, to an extent, determine how members of society will blossom or degenerate. Working with low-income communities in particular can be more difficult given the complex nature of poverty. It's more than just financial capabilities. Whether people came in looking for my boss Kerry to vent to, or even catching me on the ACTR for a chat, an additional component to poverty in rural communities is loneliness.

MC: What were some of the greatest challenges you faced?

LM: One of the greatest challenges I faced was learning how to use podcast and website technology that I'd never used before. This summer was full of trial and error, which was frustrating at times but ultimately allowed me to grow more comfortable with software I hope to use in the future.

IM: There were times where I knew I could have spoken up in a

situation but didn't know how to because we were in the confines of an office space. This was my first internship and dealing with negative situations—especially those where someone needs to be defended—was a learning curve. I understood that there was a professional and more formal way of addressing certain incidences, but I felt I had yet to learn how to go about them. It's funny because there were workshops in the spring that the Privilege and Poverty cohort held and we did a bias response training one day that required individuals to speak on ways they'd go about handling a difficult scenario. It was the most relevant component to the workshop experience as I found myself in situations where something ignorant was blurred and I was baffled.

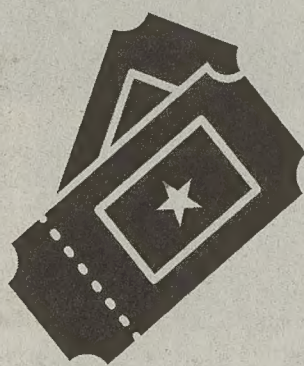
MC: What was your favorite and least favorite aspect of the job?

LM: My favorite part of my internship was reading submissions. Even if a story wasn't going to make it to the publishing stage, it felt so valuable to see what topics, styles, and themes were on contemporary

writers' minds. My least favorite aspect of the job was, unsurprisingly, anything to do with organizing paper files. However, this part felt like a really classic intern activity and it reassured me to know that I was joining a long train of past and future intern by going through the filing cabinets.

IM: Given Addison County's predominantly white population, I tried to mentally prepare myself for any conversations that would deal with my racial/ethnic/religious makeup. I've had a few incidents in town before where the experiences were pretty negative to say the least, and I thought I'd run into similar experiences again. For the most part, just about every conversation, and there were plenty, regarding the subject went smoothly. Though a few ignorant comments were made, I was happy to see that most people were genuinely curious about who I was and wanted to learn more about me. Since this was my first time being truly immersed in a rural town, it was pretty nice to see some of my experiences regarding race contradicted stereotypes and other commonly held beliefs about poor, rural white people.

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National Bank of Middlebury

Greetings & Welcome
Students, Faculty and Staff!

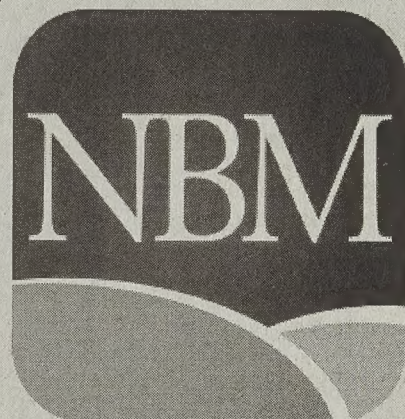
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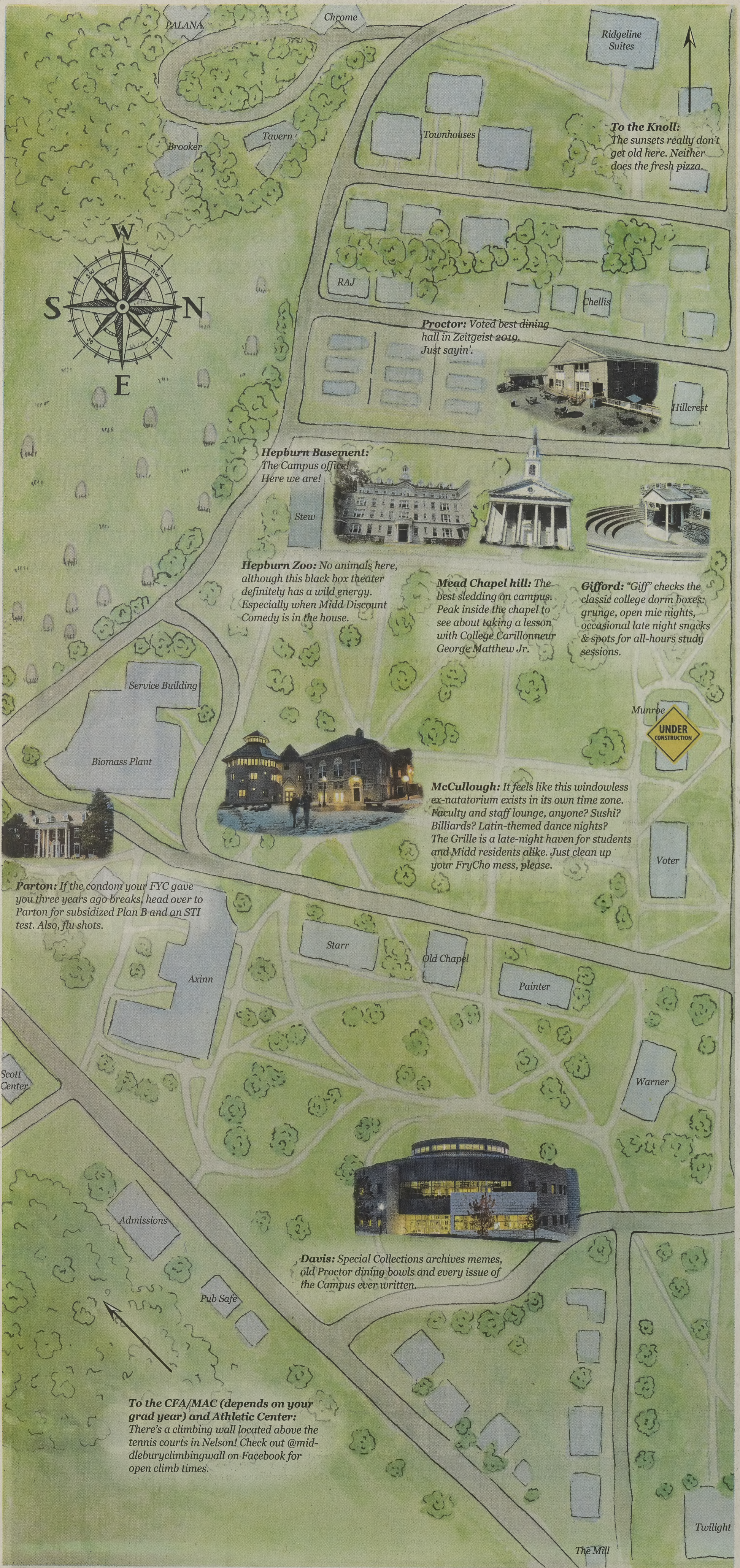


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Townhouses

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Chellis

Proctor: Voted best dining hall in Zeitgeist 2019. Just sayin'.

Hillcrest

Hepburn Basement:
The Campus office! Here we are!

Stew

Hepburn Zoo: No animals here, although this black box theater definitely has a wild energy. Especially when Midd Discount Comedy is in the house.

Mead Chapel hill: The best sledding on campus. Peak inside the chapel to see about taking a lesson with College Carillonneur George Matthew Jr.

Gifford: "Giff" checks the classic college dorm boxes: grunge, open mic nights, occasional late night snacks & spots for all-hours study sessions.

Service Building

Biomass Plant

Munroe



Voter

McCullough: It feels like this windowless ex-natatorium exists in its own time zone. Faculty and staff lounge, anyone? Sushi? Billiards? Latin-themed dance nights? The Grille is a late-night haven for students and Midd residents alike. Just clean up your FryCho mess, please.

Parton: If the condom your FYC gave you three years ago breaks, head over to Parton for subsidized Plan B and an STI test. Also, flu shots.

Axinn

Starr

Old Chapel

Painter

Warner

Admissions

Pub Safe

Davis: Special Collections archives memes, old Proctor dining bowls and every issue of the Campus ever written.

To the CFA/MAC (depends on your grad year) and Athletic Center:
There's a climbing wall located above the tennis courts in Nelson! Check out @middleburyclimbingwall on Facebook for open climb times.

The Mill

Twilight

THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

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The content written within the Opinion pages may cause emotional distress.

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By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

A college newspaper is not a public relations office.

That, at least, is the point freelance writer Adam Willis makes in his Atlantic article, "Bureaucrats Put the Squeeze on College Newspapers." We agree. When one of our editors sent Willis' article around to Campus staff in August, we took the opportunity to reflect on our own responsibilities and experiences as student journalists at Middlebury.

To us, reporting is truth-telling. In each article that appears in our pages, we aim, above all else, to be honest and informative. While a PR office is concerned with promoting a flattering, marketable narrative, the Campus seeks to highlight a diverse range of Middlebury experiences, no matter how messy. To that end, we see ourselves as College Street's own "watchdogs." We strive to embody the kind of newspaper envisioned by the Chicago Evening Post's Mr. Dooley, who quipped that the "job of the newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable."

Still, as we write, college newspapers like the Campus confront growing, even existential threats. In his piece, Willis explains how student publications find themselves "imperiled by the same economic forces that have hollowed out local newspapers from coast to coast." The Campus is fortunate to receive SGA funding to power its operations. This also means the Campus is dependent on the resources of the college, which at

times makes reporting on administrative decisions a complicated experience.

While we realize that this financial dependency is an unavoidable reality of journalism at a small college, we remain firmly committed to holding all members of the college accountable. Like the reporters in Willis' piece, Campus reporters and editors have previously felt pressure from the administration

seminal in our journalistic education.

Reporting on Murray was a wake-up call for most: Facing an administration that was dealing with its own agenda not only drove the Campus to raise its own journalistic standards, but to also reaffirm its commitment to objective truth-telling. We needed to let Old Chapel know that on no occasion would we sacrifice accurate report-

cohesive community with our journalistic obligation to tell the truth is challenging enough. The people who populate our articles live in the next dorm over, teach our classes and work to prepare our food in the dining halls.

Regardless, we are firmly committed to what we see as the Campus' chief mission: ensuring information is accurate and accessible for the Middlebury community at large.

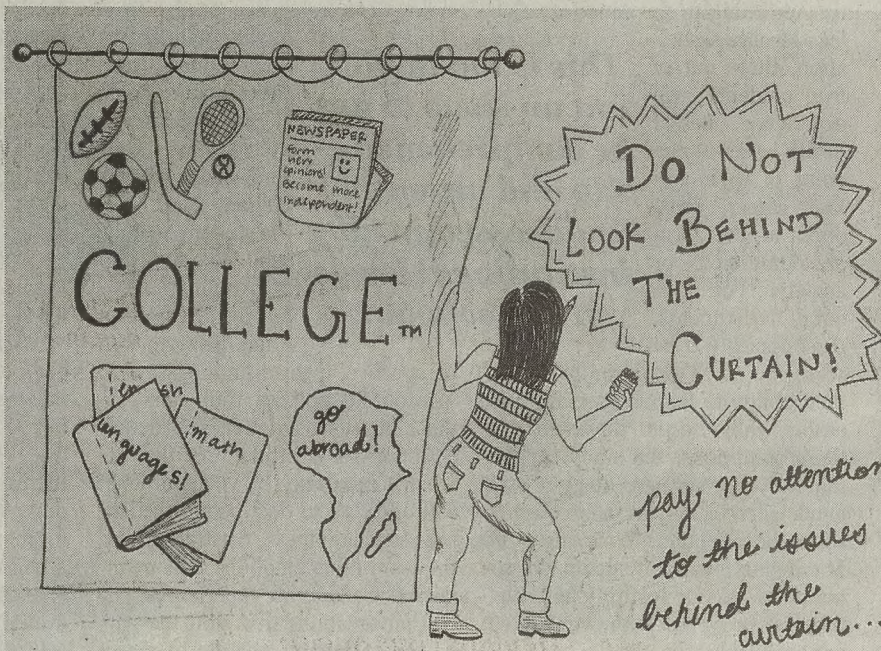
Of course, we understand Old Chapel's aversion to stories that paint the college in a bad light, and the desire across the school's institutions — the Mahaney Arts Center, the Department of Athletics — to cast a positive sheen on their goings-on. Yet branding remains their job, not ours.

The 2019-2020 Campus editorial staff is not interested in antagonism for antagonism's sake. Above all else, we believe that engaging in informed discussions about division and the college's shortcomings is not simply the best, but the only way to achieve long-lasting and relevant change on campus. While difficult, the kinds of conversations that stem from scrupulous truth-telling are usually the worthwhile ones — and we at the Campus are committed to having them.

Willis ends his piece poignantly. "The erosion of the student press threatens the integrity of the university in America," he writes, "and the quality of its future."

We sincerely hope that the administration, student body and other community stakeholders share in this sentiment.

For brand promotion, look elsewhere



SARAH FAGAN

to help promote a glossy image of the college. Several months after the 2017 Charles Murray incident, two editors were called into an administrator's office and asked to refrain from publishing negative coverage. In the weeks following, we published an editorial affirming our commitment to the truth. Many editors who helped craft that piece have since graduated, but those who remain on the board still see that sequence of events as

ing in the name of optics or ostensible campus-wide unity.

We are interested in revisiting those primary motivations, not in re-hashing the Murray episode. As we head into a new year, we simply ask administrators to consider how pressures like these complicate the already difficult role of a student journalist at Middlebury. In such a small and delicately interconnected community, balancing our desire to create a safe and

We need the commons system

By SANDHYA SEWNAUTH

Any member of the Atwater first-year class can clearly recall move-in day. A group of A-teamers is lined up in front of Allen Hall, wearing a matching set of funky Hawaiian shirts (a homage to their beloved dean, Scott Barnicle). The residential life team introduces you to your own sector of campus, one that feels unique and welcoming.

During my first few months as an Atwater first-year, I quickly began to notice the things that made my commons a special place to live. Our faculty head, Sandra Carletti, encouraged us to study Italian because many of the Atwater first-years were placed in a first-year seminar about Italy. Already, it seemed we had begun the cultural exploration promised by our liberal arts education — one that would allow us to become more inclusive, responsible global citizens. With Dean Scott Barnicle closely mentoring residential life staff, he was able to play a pivotal role in getting to know students, learning about the ways in which they excelled, and issues that they may have struggled with as they adjusted to life at the college.

At Middlebury, I learned that deans were not solely punitive figures, but rather, they genuinely cared about our growth as individuals. That touch of humanity allowed me to realize that my college experience differed from my peers at other institutions. It felt second-nature to wave to the faculty of our commons while crossing the street with a group of friends. We entered college with a brand new sense of family. No matter the situation, our commons coordinator, Debbie Cousino, was always available if we ever needed to run downstairs from our rooms and ask for guidance. This structure was something that I greatly benefited from, and my admiration for how our commons supported stu-

dents is what encouraged me to apply to be a residential life staff member during my sophomore, junior and now senior years. With changes being made to our commons system — from the removal of commons coordinators to the likelihood of its dissolution — I'd like to express why I think the commons should be here to stay.

While living in Atwater was never a utopia, things worked well. By the time I was a junior, I rarely entered Atwater dining hall without seeing a familiar face. As members of Atwater, our sense of community is strong. Because of our close proximity to a dining hall, a dean who promotes authenticity above everything else, and a smaller number of students, we have built a support network that I have been proud to be a part of during my time as a residential life staff member. As a senior within Atwater commons, I have witnessed the way incoming first years have benefited from the system.

During my tenure as a first-year counselor, I could not imagine what I would have done if I was not able to run downstairs to my commons coordinator for advice about everything ranging from purchasing art supplies for a hall activity to navigating a crisis. I do not know if my residents would have willingly met with their dean to receive necessary support if they had not gotten to know him on a surface level beforehand.

Middlebury should be working to maintain and improve our current commons system. We should not rid ourselves of one of our most defining features. Each commons should have a close association with its own dining hall and commons-related events should be encouraged to connect our different pockets of campus with one another. In recent years, the Inter-commons Council has fallen flat due to a lack of funding and lack of support from faculty members who are

enthusiastic about reinventing the commons vision. If students across various commons felt as if there was a renewed sense of vibrancy in their residential communities, and perhaps if more of our college's resources were allocated towards supporting commons development, it is likely that more students would identify strongly with their commons affiliation. The lack of student pride within the commons system stems from years of abandonment — during which commons-specific and inter-commons events, as well as plans to improve and solidify each community — have dwindled. While this and several other factors have led to the commons system decline, I do not find any of them convincing enough to dissolve a system that countless people have spent years crafting. It is an act that would vastly change campus culture in a way that feels, quite honestly, like we are losing something special.

It breaks my heart to envision a Middlebury without the commons system and without the commons that I have called home these past four years. When we lose the commons, we not only lose something that makes us different from a large state school; we lose a layered support system that was crafted with creativity and personality — one that gave people a sense of immediate community and identity, that lent to friendly competition and a way to connect worlds across a campus where various residential buildings are far from one another. I am lucky to have spent my four years at Middlebury as a member of Atwater commons. It saddens me to know that future students may not be able to enjoy the community and sense of family provided a robust, fully developed commons structure.

Sandhya Sewnauth is a member of the class of 2020.

You should travel less (or at least try to be better at it)

By HOLTON HUNTINGTON

In the age of globalization, our every action has an effect on the world-wide community. Few pastimes, however, have a more direct impact on a place than tourism. Just in the past few years, tourism has been banned in previously popular areas like the Komodo Islands in Indonesia and Fjaðrárgljúfur Canyon in Iceland because of the environmental impact of tourists. Travel bans like these reflect the growing pressures felt by over-touristed areas, but if we want to shift long-held ideas about what travel should look like, it's worth taking a closer look at the less-obvious ways tourism can be harmful.

Tourists, especially when poorly regulated, can quickly love a place to death. Sensitive ecosystems simply can't handle thousands of cars or foot-travelers trampling through the underbrush, even if they traverse through well-maintained trails or roads. Things only get worse as the numbers increase. The bar for a "good" tourist is, for all intents and purposes, underfoot. If you aren't caught on camera puking into someone's front yard or defacing a sacred monument, you're killing it. But shouldn't the standard be higher?

Mass tourism, loosely defined as groups of tourists in the thousands, has a tendency to alter the culture of the place being visited. Markets in Barcelona and Amsterdam, once important destinations for locals, have been forced to either shutter their stalls or ban large groups of tourists because of overly-congested streets. In Cuba, for example, tourists have inadvertently caused mass food shortages by artificially raising the cost of produce; when farmers can make more money selling their goods to expensive restaurants that cater exclusively to international tourists, the locals go hungry. In the most popular of tourist destinations the tell-tale signs of over-exposure are evidence of culture being replaced by commerce.

It can be argued that an influx of tourists boosts a local economy out of a recession. While this is true, it comes with a caveat: an economy based on tourism is almost always a gamble.

What happens when the pristine beaches that draw thousands

Continued on Page 10

Cartographer's note

By EMMA BROWN

I love drawing and I love maps, so I was so excited and flattered when the Campus reached out and asked for my help with this project. The map may not be perfectly to scale but I hope you learn a thing or two about the different buildings on campus. If you're new here, maybe it can be helpful in navigating during your first few weeks. If it's neither, I hope you at least enjoy looking at it!

Emma Brown is a member of the class of 2021. She designed the Middlebury map on the cover and page eight of this week's issue.

Please, read this newspaper

By SABINE POUX, JAMES FINN and SADIE HOUSBERG

If you thought you and your friends kept up a lively group chat this summer, you should have seen ours.

The flurries of texts we exchanged from the desks of our respective Vermont internships were filled with high-intensity punctuation (!), lots of CAPS and the occasional weird YouTube video. Out of those electronic brainstorming came some of the ideas we so enthusiastically curated for this first issue, from Emma Brown's map project on the front cover to our new classifieds page. (There were also plenty of ideas we scrapped before getting to campus, too, but we don't have to talk about those.)

All three of us came to the Campus at a time when the paper was coming into its own. Cumulatively, we've worked for a total of five sec-

tions, under three editors in chief and four managing editors. We've hashed out our collective mission numerous times, and spent what can only be described as an ungodly amount of hours in our little basement office. This paper matters a lot to us.

As does the practice of ethical journalism, to which we have dedicated our time off campus as well. We've spent summers reporting in newsrooms across the state, all the while taking lessons from Vermont's professional journalists and exposing ourselves to pockets of the local community that we could hardly probe as students. Many others on our board have done the same.

Past Campus leadership teams have set us up for success in important ways — establishing greater community trust, taking on projects that matter and focusing on quality of content. For those efforts, we're

grateful.

Now, we hope to bring new direction and creative energy to the work we do here, which is why we're thinking of new ways to engage our readership across our digital and print platforms. The editors of this newspaper have built close, human relationships with faculty, administrators and other students. We value those relationships immensely hope to leave our successors with these same levels of trust, long after we've had our last bite of layout-night Green Peppers pizza.

In brief, we want you to want to pick up this paper. We think it's pretty cool and we hope you do, too.

Sabine Poux, James Finn and Sadie Housberg are members of the classes of 2020, 2020.5 and 2021, respectively. Together, they comprise this year's Campus leadership team.

A call to action: Middlebury, it's time to prioritize our mental healthcare

By ARTHUR MARTINS

We are often told that college is a seminal period of our lives; that it is the time in which we grow the most because we leave our home communities, live on our own, and are able to fail and thrive in a liberal academic environment. We hold as self-evident that excelling in classes, assignments, and extracurricular activities will contribute to our personal growth and prepare us to face the challenges of the "real world."

Yet, when the real world presented itself to me in the form of major depression in the fall of my first year at Middlebury, there was little from what I learned in class that equipped me with the tools to recognize, engage and deal constructively with the emotional challenges I was facing. In 2017, I withdrew from college to take care of myself. I couldn't help but feel I was a failure for not living up to my peers' and the college's expectations. Not only did I think I was not worthy of returning, I was certain that this struggle was mine alone.

While struggles like mine can appear individual and inconsequential, they are deeply rooted in our collective ideas of what constitutes a normal college experience. High stress, sleep deprivation, as well as alcohol and substance abuse are perceived not only as inevitable, but as necessary to ensure we mature. Paradoxically, comprehensive conversations about their impacts on our mental

wellbeing are repeatedly neglected and dismissed. With our struggles left unsaid, in fear that we are the only ones going through them and that no one else can understand us, we find ourselves burdened with figuring out how to make sense of our experiences alone. It is an impossible feeling.

The scale of struggling with mental health in college is often lost on us. According to the American College Health Association, three out of five students will experience mental health issues at one point of their college career, most often in the form of depression or anxiety. For two out of five students, these issues will be so severe as to significantly impair their ability to function socially and academically. Despite the severity of these conditions, the study reports that only a small percentage of students will seek help at their college's counseling centers. Worryingly, at Middlebury, when students do attempt to ask for institutional help, they risk being met with overworked or unavailable resources.

This is too important an issue not to be comprehensively and urgently addressed in all institutional levels at our school, because neglecting our emotional wellbeing has dire consequences. Suicide is the second lead-

ing cause of death for college-age students, and over 75% of lifetime mental health conditions will develop by age 24 with lifelong implications if not diagnosed and treated early.

While it is imperative to strengthen and better fund Parton Health Center, it is equally necessary to find other ways to increase our institutional support network. Providing comprehensive access to a quality standard of institutional care should not come at the expense of overworking our counsellors or residential staff, nor the student body itself. We must stop approaching mental health from a crisis-intervention

perspective, instead finding ways to incorporate policies that can promote long-term emotional resilience. It is not enough to assume that academic excellence by virtue of itself will allow us to deal with rejection, sadness, happiness, frustration and the many other emotions that are inherent in all our life experiences.

Conversations that shift the paradigm of mental healthcare as an individual problem are in order for all of us; after all, this is an issue in which everyone in our community has the power to make a change. However, it is the college as an institution that has the most ability and

the greatest responsibility of leading change by example. These efforts are by no means utopian. Thoughtful, proactive and effective policies towards emotional resilience have been adopted successfully elsewhere. We do not need to look further than Main Street to find great examples: The Counseling Services of Addison County (CSAC) offers annually a "Mental Health First Aid Training" open to the community. In addition, they recently launched the "OK. You've Got This" Project, working with high schools in Middlebury to promote emotional resilience and teach positive coping strategies to students as a way to proactively address mental health and substance abuse.

We do so much good in our community already. But it's time we take it a step further as an institution.

As for those who may be struggling now, I urge you to hear my message. Asking for help is hard, but you and your concerns are valid. They will always be. Do not be afraid to reach out to your advisor, your dean, your peer. It made a difference for me; I came back after a year-and-a-half medical leave to realize I was a part of this community all along, even when I did not feel well. It is our collective duty to be there for each other. Remember, you are not alone.

Arthur Martins is a member of the class of 2022.5.

This story ran online this August.

You should travel less

Continued from Page 9

of tourists become cluttered with trash or wiped away by a hurricane? Or when the picturesque village you live in gets blasted all over the international news for a small crime spree? Tourists are fickle, and the hot new spot can change at a moment's notice. In short, there is no guarantee that tourism will always create a stable economy.

It's foolish and pointless to ask people to not travel internationally, and that's not what I want. I know from personal experience that traveling can be a major catalyst for personal growth and can help to widen narrow cultural views of the world. My (admittedly imperfect) answer to the issue of tourism is simple: travel less, and if you must go, don't join the hordes. Sure, the idea of forgoing the amazing cultural and natural wonders one experiences while traveling may be unappealing but it's a response to a straightforward question: will the place you want to visit genuinely benefit from your visit? If the answer is no, then don't go. Plain and simple. Do the Venetians need you in their already-congested streets, making it nearly impossible to get to work? Of course not. Will the crystal-clear waters off the coast of Cabo San Lucas really benefit from your overly-sunscreened body plunging in? Doubtful. Imagine how the locals of Phuket feel about the herds of drunken tourists keeping them up late at night.

I want people to be more mindful of the impact they might have on a tourist destination and to prioritize genuine cultural experiences over canned adventures. Do some research and find a place that isn't already completely overrun. Make sure that the local economy isn't completely dominated by tourism. Don't bounce around too much; stay in one place and do your best to connect with some locals. Try to incorporate your passions into your travels -- take a cooking class, go watch local sports games, learn about the town's architecture, find some locals to play chess with you. Engage with the culture and actively try to learn something new.

Mass tourism is unsustainable, and I believe we have a moral obligation to not participate in it. If we want beautiful and important places to stay the way that they are, then the tourism industry needs a paradigm shift. We can't undo the damage already done -- traveling less and being more mindful won't save coral reefs, un-sink Venice, or de-clog the streets of Paris -- but we can make steps towards ensuring the tourist destinations of the future are part of a balanced global community, not just spaces for people to get their tan on.

Holton Huntington is a member of the class of 2019.5.

Turns out, words have consequences

By TAITÉ SHOMO

In his recent article for The Guardian, Jacek Dehnel recounts the hatred and violence he and others experienced as part of a Polish Pride Parade in Białystok, Poland, where marchers were outnumbered four to one by protestors. Dehnel describes images of men attacking marchers, burning rainbow flags, throwing bottles and other objects and yelling "f**k-off-fag-gots." This played out despite supposed police protection.

At the same time, the Law and Justice party, or PiS, held a "family picnic" in the Białystok Branicki Palace gardens, ostensibly to diminish violence against marchers. More likely, the picnic was to show what PiS considers to be a legitimate family: one that is heterosexual. In fact, the local Archbishop reportedly told locals to "defend Christian values" by attending the picnic. This was clear to Dehnel as he tried to pass through the garden on his way out and was told that he and others from the march were not welcome there.

If you're wondering why you should care about PiS and Polish citizens' violent responses to Pride (besides, you know, a basic concern for humanity), I'll tell you: Ryszard Legutko is a member of the PiS and a Member of the European Parliament.

In case you forgot from his visit to campus last April, Legutko described hate crimes against queer people as a "totally fictitious problem," despite there being at least 120 queer-related hate crimes in Poland in 2014 (in addition to the many that go unreported). Instead, he claims, "Christians are the group that have been discriminated against." Hence, I suppose, the heavily militarized "family picnic."

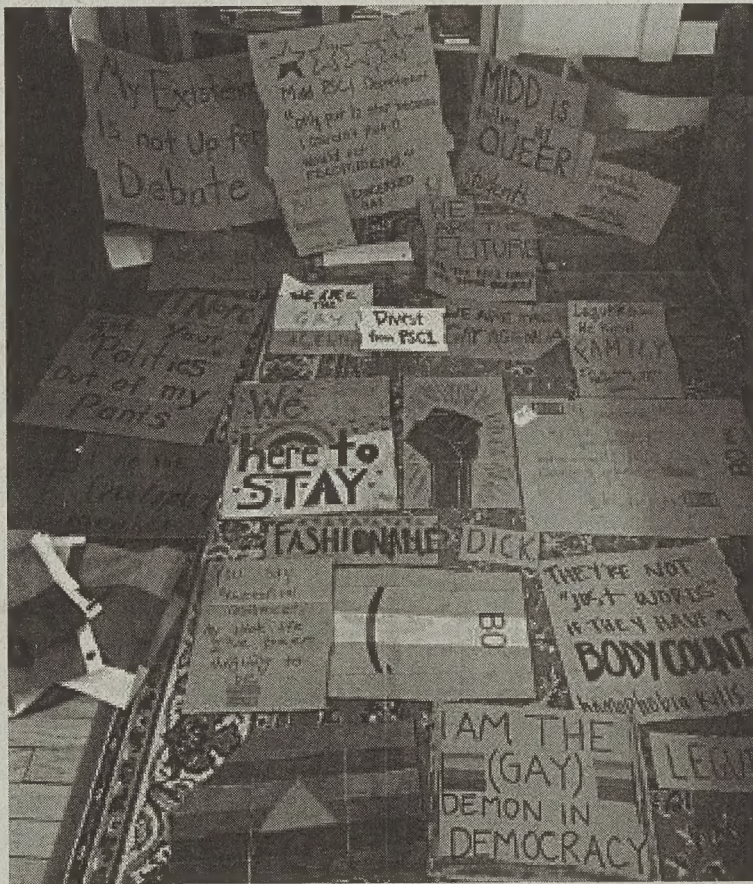
But wait, there's more! Jarosław Kaczyński, leader of PiS, has also said that queer identities are a "threat

to Polish identity, to our nation, to its existence and thus to the Polish state." The Independent reports that a PiS campaign advertisement made this belief clear when it showed an umbrella with the PiS logo sheltering a heterosexual family (an endangered species, I hear) "from rainbow rain." Since this statement, about 30 Polish cities and provinces have declared themselves "LGBT-ideology free" zones, complete with stickers.

Now, hold on, you might be thinking to yourself. I thought we could disparage entire groups of people and claim that they are the downfall of democracy, but that it would just be theoretical. I thought we could just engage with ideas (that don't affect our bodies or lives) and that it would be fun and have no consequences.

Hold your horses, brave defenders of ... well, certainly not the right to safety. As you can see, harmful discourse of the type you love so dearly actually informs real life. I didn't even need a PhD in political philosophy to figure that one out.

So here are my questions: Why are we legitimizing this hateful, harmful rhetoric by inviting Legutko to speak on our campus not once but likely twice, as Professor Callanan said he had? Why are we still so convinced that there is nothing dangerous about "the diverse thoughts and opinions of all our professors" that dehumanize marginalized groups of people who are literally being murdered? (Thanks to the Political Science Student Advisory Committee for that gem.) Why can't we Google "critiques of democracy" if we want someone to talk about the flaws in the democratic system, instead of financially and ideologically supporting a bigot? We owe it not just to our community, but also to queer people being persecuted in Poland and everywhere, not to bring him back.



TAITÉ SHOMO

Signs Shomo and other student activists made before the planned Legutko protest this past April.

But look, I'm a realistic person. I know that the Alexander Hamilton Forum is going to re-invite Legutko, and, as far as I know, he will accept. It was exhausting and traumatizing and wholly disheartening to plan the protest in April. I lost my faith in the Middlebury College community for what felt like the hundredth time. But that will not stop me from planning and executing another response the next time Legutko steps foot on our campus.

And so, for myself, for my girlfriend, for all of the queer people at Middlebury who have to put up with this and for all of the queer people in Poland who have been hurt, I have this to say: Legutko, I'm ready for you. Who's with me?

Taite Shomo is a member of the class of 2020.5

This story ran online this August.

Don't write off the Peace Corps

By COURTNEY CANO

I am currently living in a rural village in the Eastern province of Zambia as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer. My main assignment is "capacity development" at my community's primary school, a job which includes teaching English, facilitating teacher trainings, and working with adult literacy and gender equality. My secondary assignment is to improve programs that raise awareness for HIV, malaria, early marriages, and gender-based violence. At least, these are my stated objectives; my actual services have evolved out of the desires of the community. While the Peace Corps is far from perfect, I believe that the way we respond to specific communities is incredibly important.

School infrastructure in rural Zambia tends to be a little rough around the edges, and my school is no exception. We have three classroom blocks of three rooms each -- for a total of nine classrooms -- but not all of them are functional. My school is old (it was originally built in 1954), and not much has changed since then. The floors are covered in chips and cracks that leave the desks at variety of weird angles. The chalkboards are virtually useless, the windows have no glass, and the classroom walls have holes in them, leaving students exposed to the elements. Rain pours in, soaking their notebooks. The wind is a constant distraction. During the hot season, the classroom feels like a desert: dry,

dusty and insufferably hot. Conditions like these are not conducive to teaching, much less learning.

An overall lack of resources has also crippled our school's ability to engage the students in much-needed extracurricular development. Because the only available classrooms are in use during both the morning and afternoon, we are unable to carry-out educational programs such as GLOW (Girls Leading Our World), GRS (Grass-Roots Soccer, an HIV/AIDS program), or other programs designed to increase literacy.

And so instead of simply teaching, I have been restoring the school. On that note, my current (and biggest) undertaking is a community-driven school restoration grant. This will allow us to buy the materials needed to bring our school back up to working order (including new cement for the floors and walls, paint for the chalkboards, new frames and panes for the windows). Yet even here my role evolves in response to the community: the locals are the ones writing lists, creating a budget and organizing volunteer workers. They are the ones telling me what needs to be done. I am not the driving force behind this endeavor -- I am simply a cog in the machine, working with community members to achieve a common goal.

Peace Corps Partnership Program grants (or PCPPs) are not uncommon amongst Peace Corps Volunteers. In my opinion, they are the safest way for American donors to ensure their

money is being put to good use. The grant applications are written by Peace Corps Volunteers on behalf of a community that lacks the resources to address a specific need. Often, grant applications are concerned with infrastructure: building libraries or new school blocks, or -- as in my case -- restoration. What is particularly great about PCPPs is that you know your money is going directly to the community. It is not being filtered through a committee of sticky-fingered bureaucrats, and it is not being spent on futile, albeit well-intended, programs. For these reasons, I believe there are few better options than to donate to a PCPP.

As I said, the Peace Corps is far from perfect. It has the same flaws that plague any institution of its scale and scope. So do its volunteers. Some of them come off as "white saviors." Some of them do a poor job of readjusting their world lens when working within their communities. Volunteers like this make it easy to write the Peace Corps off as another misstep on an aid-heavy path to development. In my experience, however, there is a strong base of Peace Corps volunteers who have the right intentions, and our working to correct the Peace Corps' flaws. As volunteers, we are most effective when we stay open and responsive, and, whenever possible, amplify the voice of our host communities.

Courtney Cano is a member of the class of 2018.

Tired of trying to argue your points across the table in Proctor?

Wishing you had somewhere other than your Friday morning seminar to make yourself heard?

We want to hear what you have to say.

Send your op-eds/questions to campus@middlebury.edu & eeberlee@middlebury.edu

Center for Careers and Internships

See these opportunities and more at go/handshake.

WomenSafe

Location: Middlebury, Vt.
Term: Fall, Winter Term, Summer
Deadline: September 15

WomenSafe serves people across the gender spectrum who are experiencing sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. Volunteer your time, talents and energy for tasks like answering the hotline, speaking to community groups, assisting in planning events or helping with administrative duties. Volunteer training only happens yearly, so if you have interest in interning for J-term or summer at WomenSafe during the academic year of 2019-2020, consider completing volunteer training this fall! This year, volunteer training starts on September 17, 2019, and takes place over the span of three weeks. If you would like to attend WomenSafe volunteer training, email info@women-safe.net or contact current Luna Gizzi '20.

WomenSafe



Middlebury Regional EMS

Location: Middlebury, Vt.
Term: Winter Term
Deadline: September 17

The Winter Term 2020 EMT Program is a credit bearing, comprehensive emergency medical internship that is co-sponsored by Middlebury College and Middlebury Regional EMS. The intensive monthlong program will provide students the opportunity to become nationally certified EMT-B's. EMT skills may be used to provide medical support on the ambulance, at the Open Door Clinic, and at other college and community events. **NOTE: To apply, students must attend an information session in Coltrane Lounge on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.



Chestnut Partners

Location: Boston, Mass.
Term: Summer
Deadline: October 2

Summer Analysts at Chestnut Partners provide private and public clients in biotech and life sciences industries with financial advisory services including valuation, financial planning & analysis, merger & acquisition advisory, and debt & equity capital formation. While Chestnut Partners is an investment bank, its deep client relationships typically result in advisory assignments that are a mix between traditional banking and consulting activities and expose Summer Analysts to all aspects of clients' business models and strategies. Chestnut Partners has previously hired from the classes of 1997, 2000, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2019.

Foundation for Contemporary Arts

Location: New York, N.Y.
Term: Winter Term
Deadline: October 15

Foundation for Contemporary Arts (FCA) is a non-profit arts organization. Its mission is to encourage, sponsor, and promote contemporary visual and performing arts. FCA is currently seeking three full-time January interns. FCA announces its Grants to Artists awards in January and will be preparing its annual grants publication and planning for its annual grant reception. FCA will also have a benefit exhibition on view through January. FCA has a small staff; therefore, interns gain exposure to all aspects of FCA's fund-raising, development, and grant-making efforts.

FCA



National Security Agency

Location: Ft. Meade, Md.
Term: Summer
Deadline: October 15

The Director's Summer Program (DSP) is looking for students who have distinguished themselves in undergraduate research or national mathematics competitions. At the beginning of the summer, students are presented with introductory lectures on modern cryptography and a set of problems that NSA mathematicians are actively investigating. The Cryptanalysis and Signals Analysis Summer Program (CASASP) gives undergraduate mathematicians and computer scientists a chance to contribute to mission-essential technical operations at the National Security Agency (NSA). The CASA mission is to transform collected data into a format analysts can readily consume for intelligence purposes by analyzing signals and protocols, and overcoming security measures. Each summer we invite students to learn, use, and further NSA's tradecraft as they work on operational problems of national importance.

ODC

OPEN DOOR CLINIC

Open Door Clinic

Location: Middlebury, Vt.
Term: Winter Term
Deadline: October 27

Description: The Bilingual Patient Services Intern will gain a unique perspective on healthcare, public health, and access and provision of services to special populations. The intern will perform a variety of administrative responsibilities, including patient and volunteer outreach, updating data bases, website and Facebook; typing and revising rosters for clinic nights; and interpreting for medical appointments. In collaboration with other ODC staff members and/or volunteers, the intern will communicate and interpret for Spanish-speaking patients/prospective patients over the phone and in-person. Spanish and English fluency required.

James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS), Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIS)

Location: Monterey, Calif.
Term: Winter Term
Deadline: November 1

This is a great opportunity to conduct research on issues related to the spread and control of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and regional security issues in the former Soviet Union, Eurasia, East Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East. CNS is a key innovator in nonproliferation research, pioneering the use of open source information and computer modeling. Several Midd students have enjoyed this experience. A stipend is offered to help cover travel and housing.



Middlebury International Programs & Off-Campus Study Office

Location: Middlebury College on-campus internship
Term: Winter Term
Deadline: November 1 or earlier

Stay on campus this Winter Term and gain experience while learning about the field of study abroad in higher education! Our ideal candidate has studied abroad and is proficient in basic media and video editing programs and techniques. Primary responsibilities:

- Student recruitment: Represent the Middlebury Schools Abroad at 1-2 study abroad fairs at colleges and universities in the Burlington, VT area.
- Online reviews: Conduct campaigns to capture fall 2018 returnee reviews on GoOverseas.com and GoAbroad.com.
- Pre-departure orientation videos: Assist with technical aspects of developing a series of online pre-departure orientation videos, including recording and editing the videos.

Center for Community Engagement

Subscribe to the weekly newsletter at go/ccesubscribe

Become a DREAM Co-Chair

Application deadline: Monday, September 16 at 11:59 p.m.

DREAM (Directing through Recreation, Education, Adventure, and Mentoring) is a Middlebury College student organization that partners college students with an incredible group of kids within Middlebury's low-income housing community. We primarily engage in group mentoring with opportunities for one-on-one mentoring. Co-chair responsibilities include planning and participating in weekly Friday activities (e.g. apple-picking, sledding) and attending a monthly Service Cluster Board meeting/training through the Center for Community Engagement. Transportation is provided and time commitment is minimal (2-3 hours/week). No DREAM experience necessary (the CCE and the DREAM organization will support you in this role). Apply at go/dreamcochair by September 16th. For more information, contact Janice Zhang at janicez@middlebury.edu.

Work with Addison Central Teens

Information session: Tuesday, September 17 from 12:30-1:15 p.m. in the CCE

Application deadline: Friday, September 27

Addison Central Teens provides a Teen Center in the heart of Middlebury, less than a 20 minute walk from campus. Every day after school we provide snacks, games and positive adult presence in the lives of teens in the 7-12 grades. We are seeking Middlebury College students for a variety of work study and volunteer positions: Program Assistant, Gaming Intern, Food and Nutrition Intern, and Publicity and Media Intern! Involvement can range from remote internships to weekly afternoons spent supervising teens from 3-6 p.m. Come to our information session on Tuesday, September 17 from 12:30-1:15 p.m. in the CCE to learn more about these positions (pizza provided). You can also contact Cecilia Robison at cicilia@middteens.org and check out middteens.org/jobs-and-internships/ to learn more. Apply at go/teencenterapplication by September 27 and make a difference with kids in your community!

LiM + Malt Accepting Fall Break Mini-Malt Participant Applications

Application deadline: Sunday, September 22

Trip dates: Sunday, October 20-Tuesday, October 22

Language in Motion and Malt (Middlebury Alternative Break Program) are now accepting applications for the upcoming fall break mini-Malt trip (October 20-22). Participants in this 2.5-day service-learning trip to Barre, Vermont will 1) develop and deliver presentations and classroom activities that promote global awareness, cultural competence and/or world language acquisition in the public high school; and 2) engage in collaborative community service outside of the high school. All interested students are encouraged to apply. Information and the application can be found at go/Malt. Please apply by September 22. Contact Kristen Mullins at kmullins@middlebury.edu with questions.

Vision for Vermont Summit

Event date and time: Saturday, September 14, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Bread Loaf Barn in Ripton

We hope you will join us for the second Vision for Vermont summit at the Bread Loaf Barn in Ripton on Saturday, September 14th, from 9:30 am-4:00 pm. Vermonters from all over the state will gather to continue our work to create a common vision for "a Vermont that works for all." We will hear from a panel of Vermonters whose voices and perspectives are not always heard. There will be time for reflection, large-group and small-group discussion, music, food, and more. Please join us to talk about what matters most to you during these challenging times. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Cat La Roche at cat@visionforvermont.org with your name, town, and to let us know if you would like childcare, and if so, the ages of the children. (Childcare will be available, at no additional charge, but must be pre-registered.) Our suggested donation for participants is \$5-15, payable at the door. For more information, visit our website at www.visionforvermont.org or email Fran Putnam at franputnam24@gmail.com.

Community postings

SUN-FILLED MIDDLEBURY APARTMENT in idyllic spot.

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Grads kick it old school during Alumni College weekend

By APRIL QIAN
Arts and Academics Editor

Drive down scenic Route 125 and you'll find, situated across from the Robert Frost Interpretive Trail, Middlebury College's Breadloaf Campus in Ripton, Vt.: home to the Breadloaf School of English graduate programs during the summer as well as various MiddView groups during first-year orientation week. What's lesser known, however, is that for 44 consecutive years, Breadloaf has welcomed back hundreds of alumni, their friends and spouses, and parents of students for an annual four-day program called Alumni College.

From Aug. 29 to Sept. 1 this year, 139 alumni came to Breadloaf to reconnect with friends, soak in the Vermont scenery and explore one of the weekend's five course offerings. Most hailed from the New England area, but many others traveled from California, Texas and the UK to participate in the program.

According to Associate Director of Alumni and Parent Programs Lori Mackey, classes filled within the first few weeks that registration was open.

Professor of Psychology Matthew Kimble taught a course on happiness at Alumni College in 2001, and has since overseen the program's course programming as its faculty director.

Courses for Alumni College are typically decided upon in February. Generally, Kimble looks for a program of five courses that span the humanities, social sciences and physical sciences. One Alumni College tradition is that there is almost always a field class offered, so that students have the opportunity to take full advantage of Alumni College's pastoral setting in Ripton.

Kimble said that one of the major attractions of Alumni College is its location at the Breadloaf campus. "I don't know what percentage of people we would lose if we were like, 'Oh, we're going to have classes in BiHall this year,' but I'm feeling it would be a lot," Kimble said. "I think people would be very disappointed. There's something special about being up [at Breadloaf] at that time of year; it's so beautiful."

Despite being relatively unknown among current students, news of Alumni College travels fast through word of mouth among alumni friend groups, and the program welcomed its largest group in its 44-year history this year.

Often, classes and friends will come back regularly, using Alumni College as a reunion. "Some of [the participants] are real regulars," Kimble said. Participants this year ranged from individuals in the class of 1951 to those in the class of 2007. Of the participants, the Class of '55 has been known for attending Alumni College together as annual mini-reunions. They will be celebrating their 65th reunion in June of 2020.

Sue Byers '55 and Bruce Byers '55 have been attending Alumni College for 18 years. "We became kind of famous, the class of '55, because we had so many of our class come. And then their spouses would come, and they just loved it, as we did," Bruce Byers said.

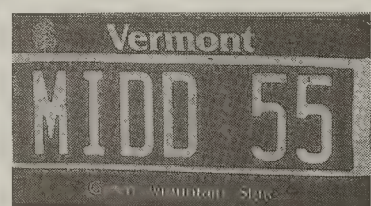
This year, 14 members of the Class of '55 cohort attended Alumni College. "These people came with us in 1951, and we've been pretty close with all of this group for all that time. We've lost a few last couple of years, but that's one reason why we come," Bruce Byers said.

"The setting is number two," Sue Byers continued, echoing Kimble's sentiments about the beauty of late summer in Vermont. "You can hike after your class, or you can play tennis

after your class, or you can sit in the wonderful Adirondack chairs anywhere around and catch up on your reading for the next day," she said.

And sometimes, the pure pleasure of seeing old friends and familiar faces is enough to keep people coming back. "Breakfast, lunch and dinner," Bruce said. "You can't overestimate how important it is for our group to be sitting together, three times a day."

This year, Bruce took a course with Associate Professor of Geology Will Amidon on Geologic Controls on Human History in the Champlain Valley, which took the class on field trips to the Robert Frost Interpretive Trail and to Port Henry. He noted the difference in age between students at Alumni College and undergraduates at Middlebury College. "From the professors' point of view," he said, "they're talking to people in their 60s and 70s and 80s instead of teenagers."



APRIL QIAN / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
An Alumni College participant reps her class on her license plate.

Sue, however, pointed out that "because of their age, [Alumni College participants] can draw on experiences that are pertinent to what the course is about." She said that in her course with Associate Professor of Philosophy Martha Woodruff on Socratic Legacies Today, there were about four teachers or school counselors in the class, who were able to provide input about their experiences with the Socratic method in K-12 education.

"The one thing that's different about Alumni College is that students bring so much experience to the table," Kimble said. He said that most attendees of Alumni College have "fairly recently retired" and estimates the average age of a student at Alumni College to be around 70, which made for interesting discussions in courses like his on Happiness, which had "individuals with a lifetime of experience" and "will comment on ways that are really different than what you'll see in undergraduates." The insights that can be gained from the wealth of experiences of students at Alumni College can often be rewarding for faculty as well. According to Kimble, most faculty who have taught at Alumni College describe it as one of their most rewarding teaching experiences.

"Most alumni don't know about [Alumni College] until they're older," said Alumni College participant Bobo Sideli '77, P'08, P'13. Sideli had been curious about the demographics of the program's participants, and did a little analysis of his own. "You can get the attendee list online," he said, "and I sorted it, and 99 out of 140 people are alumni; the rest are spouses or parents. And then I looked at it in excel, and the peak is in the class of '67. Thirty-five percent of the attendees are from the classes of '63 to '68, so they're in their seventies. It's a bell curve."

Sideli is trying to convince friends from his class to come to Alumni College. "They still haven't gotten around to it. In their mind it's an old people's thing," Sideli said. "They're still — you know — the gogo. I'm the early group."

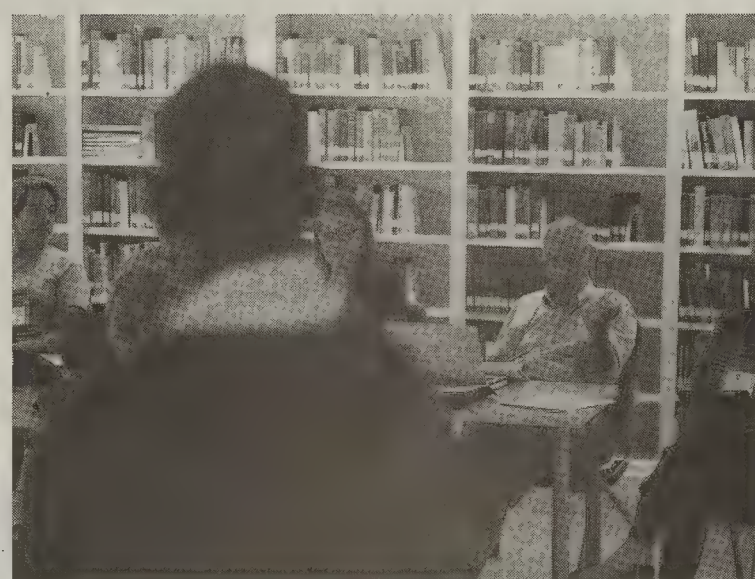
Despite a generally positive experience at Alumni College, however, Sideli also noted a lack of racial diversity in the program's attendees. "One thing that bothers me

is the total lack of diversity — it's so obvious," Sideli said. "You look at the Middlebury student population and you come here, and it's like — what the hell is going on? But you also have to remember, you're thinking about mostly people who came to Middlebury in the mid-60s. When I came to Middlebury in '72 I think we had a dozen or 20 African Americans. I always joked that because I'm an Italian from South Shore, Long Island, that I was diversity."

Sideli took a course titled James Brown, Bob Marley, and Beyoncé: Protest Music as Political Mobilization Across Countries taught by Associate Professor of Political Science Kemi Fuentes-George. The course was based on a J-term course Fuentes-George had taught in the past, and included numbers from a variety of genres and origins and ranged from songs that celebrated subaltern identities, to those that were more provocative and explicit. Fela Kuti's "Lady," Kendrick Lamar's "Alright," and N.W.A.'s "F**k the Police" were among the songs on the syllabus. "We didn't just do hip hop music, we did music from Jamaica, we did music from Nigeria, we did Pussy Riots from Russia, and we did music from Egypt and Tunisia as well," Fuentes-George said.

Fuentes-George went into the weekend with some reservations of his own: "I'll be honest," he said, "I was a little bit — I don't know if nervousness is the word — but I was a little bit concerned: how are these retirees, older white people, going to deal with Tupac and Kendrick Lamar? But if this is material that's new to them and subject matter that's new to them, I think that's probably even better than just — 'Oh, here's more of just stuff that you've already read.'"

To prepare his students for the program, Fuentes-George sent them a video in June about the technical construction of rap music, background on the Black Lives Matter movement, as well as the involvement of certain music in that movement, "stuff coming out from Beyoncé and Kendrick and so on."



COURTESY PHOTO
Students in Professor Fuentes-George's course on protest music listened to a variety of rap and hip-hop music.

It was Fuentes-George's attempt to "situate this so that people who might not have a familiarity with hip hop and rap music see that, not whatever their stereotype of it was."

"It was an opportunity for me to get people to think about things that they ordinarily wouldn't have thought about," he said. "The way to do that is to have people do readings and make them engage with material that they ordinarily wouldn't have engaged with. I didn't want it to be just a dog and pony show."

"I think they engaged with it," Fuentes-George said when asked about how his students had responded to the course material. "I know that there were some who came away from it with a not just a better familiarity, but a better appreciation for some of the artists that they didn't necessarily know."

"I know protest music from the civil rights movement, but I didn't know any other protest music, and I had no knowledge of rap," Sideli said. "And hip-hop — I mean, that was foreign to me. So I thought it would be good exposure, and it is."

A recent retiree, Sideli had worked in healthcare for most of his adult life. Now he "does" mu-

sic, he said. He plays, reads about and studies music, and sees Fuentes-George's course as a further exploration into the "larger macro level of music."

Though Sideli doesn't typically write protest songs, "cause I have nothing to protest about," he made an exception for the last night of Alumni College: putting his own spin on James Brown's iconic 1969 song "I'm Black and I'm Proud," Sideli and his classmates serenaded the Alumni College with "I'm Old and I'm Proud."

"We're so sick of our culture that's so youth-oriented — and so this is our protest song," he said.

Sideli is one of many participants for whom Alumni College was an opportunity to rekindle interests and passions they had temporarily set aside in life post-Middlebury.

"For anyone who's gone to college, there's just always part of you that misses that environment and longs to go back, and so many do," Kimble said. "To some extent, my worst fear is that people will learn what an amazing thing Alumni College is and we won't be able to accommodate everybody. I do feel like it's a bit of a secret."

Hirschfield Film Series promises compelling, diverse season

By ELSA KORPI
Arts and Academics Editor

Anyone strolling past Middlebury's noticeboards is bound to come across the saturated posters of the Hirschfield International Film Series. Highlights from prominent film festivals and other critically acclaimed films will be screened free of charge in Dana Auditorium beginning on Saturday, September 14 at 3 and 8 p.m.

"The key qualifier of films is to bring in films that otherwise wouldn't be screened at Middlebury," said Film and Media Professor Leger Grindon.

Per its title, the Hirschfield International Series has sought to represent every language taught at Middlebury. Language departments are encouraged to submit titles and co-sponsor screenings, an offer that the French department has reportedly been especially prone to take up. Screenings can be used as an educational activity for foreign language students.

Curation was previously led by the chair of the Film and Media Studies Department with input from professors, yet since 2018 student and staff representatives have sat on the committee. After reaching out to distributors, two members of the committee watch the promotional "screeners" of films in the catalog. To keep selections up to date, the committee transitioned to adding new titles to the programme in chunks, rather than scheduling a year's worth of screenings at once.

The series, which has included pre-release screenings and films that went on to become box office successes, has typically obtained screening rights at discounted prices because of its affiliation with the college. Media Production Specialist Ethan Murphy, who sits on the programming committee, declined to share exact costs, citing ongoing negotiations.

In an article published in the Campus in 2013, then Catalog and Acquisitions Associate Sue Driscoll

priced the rights at \$200-750, with an average cost of \$450-550 per film. According to Driscoll, these figures are still accurate today.

The Hirschfield endowment is separate from that of the college. In addition to screening rights, it finances marketing and external speakers. For the screening of "Children of Men" earlier this year, organizers invited Burlington-based screenwriter and Academy Award nominee Hawk Ostby to Middlebury to share his thoughts on the film and his writing process.

movies in theaters [...] also tended to consume streaming content more frequently." In other words, people who enjoy film will most likely enjoy it through more than one medium.

The Hirschfield Series does not attempt to compete with these services, and instead promises a unique viewing experience. According to Murphy, the technical features of Dana Auditorium alone create an unrivaled environment.

"There are many films that depend more on composition, as opposed to plot, that can't really make an impact



MAX PADILLA / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Sam Kann '20.5 (first from left) is the student representative serving on the Hirschfield Film Programming Committee.

More than 30 years after its inception, the Hirschfield Series retains an underground character.

"In a way [the series] has been around for so long that it's taken for granted," Murphy said.

According to Professor Grindon, the department often struggles to get its own students to attend screenings. Streaming services like Netflix and Hulu have become the default scapegoat for the declining popularity of movie theaters, yet recent research shows otherwise. A 2018 study by Ernst & Young's Quantitative Economics and Statistics group showed that "those who attended

on your computer [screen]. There's a division in what kind of experience you're looking for," Grindon said. "If you take the time to go to a particular screening (...), you're going to be more patient in watching the film. It gives more challenging films a chance to make a greater impact."

The 2019-2020 season will launch with "Monos," a Colombian "survivalist saga" directed by Alejandro Landes. The film is Colombia's official selection for Best International Feature Film at the 92nd Academy Awards.

Hirschfield International Film Series: "Monos"

"Monos," Alejandro Landes' awe-inspiring third feature, is a breathtaking survivalist saga set on a remote mountain in Latin America. The film tracks a young group of soldiers and rebels — bearing names like Rambo, Smurf, Bigfoot, Wolf and Boom-Boom — who keep watch over an American hostage. After an unexpected ambush, order descends into chaos and within "Monos" the strong begin to prey on the weak in this vivid, cautionary fever-dream.

Saturday, 9/14, 3 and 8 p.m., Dana Auditorium.



COURTESY PHOTO
Class of '55 alumni gather every year at Alumni College.

DON'T MISS THIS

Observatory Open Hours

Mittelman Observatory and Middlebury Physics will again host stargazing open house nights this autumn. These Observatory events are scheduled for Friday evenings, September 13 and September 20, from 8:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. weather permitting.

Jupiter and Saturn will be in the evening sky on these dates.

Fridays 9/13 and 9/20, 8:30 p.m.–10 p.m., McCardell Bicentennial Hall, Mittelman Observatory

Opening Day: Votes... for Women?

While relatively few voices publicly questioned the prohibition against women voting in the decades following the country's founding, most Americans did not wholeheartedly consider this question until the last century. This free exhibit of vintage photographs, banners, and memorabilia coincides with the 100th anniversary of the campaign to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920.

Friday 9/13, Mahaney Arts Center, Christian A. Johnson Memorial Gallery.

The Performing Arts Series is celebrating its 100th anniversary; we should be celebrating, too

By **BEN BEESE**
Senior Writer

With the start of the new semester, comes the opening of the 2019–2020 season of the Middlebury Performing Arts Series. This season is going to be spectacular, with old favorites such as cellist Sophie Shao (her 12th consecutive season at Middlebury) and pianist Paul Lewis (for his 22nd Middlebury performance); internationally renowned groups including the Grammy award-winning Takács Quartet; new faces like the series' first quartet in residence, the Heath Quartet; two world premieres, including a new piece by Music Professor Matthew Evan Taylor; and much more. For the 100th consecutive year, Middlebury is in for a treat.

Yet, I get ahead of myself. I, who has an aversion to all things popular and current suitable only for someone four times my age, find all the aforementioned performances thrilling. This, of course, may not be the case for others

at the college. While classical music, for instance, is not particularly in vogue this century, one might wonder whether it is still worth all the effort, time, and money invested in bringing such art to Middlebury, Vermont for the 100th year? What is the benefit that we gain from the Arts at Middlebury?

Of course, we should all be able to agree that there is merit in bringing something fresh to our lonely corner of New England. While it still may be deceptively warm and pleasant, we ought not forget how forlorn the campus can get in the bleak month of January, when even the sun has decided it could find more interesting places to spend its time. Middlebury is, in more senses than one, remote, and the arts, whether formally part of the Performing Arts Series or in any other association with the Mahaney Arts Center, bring us a taste of the outside world. This year's Performing Arts Series artists hail from over a dozen different countries, bringing Irish guitar music, Nordic World music, Bach, Bartók and Jazz to our

doorstep. That's not to mention "SEVEN," a ground-breaking play coming next March based on the experiences of seven women bringing change to their homes in Pakistan, Nigeria, Ireland, Afghanistan, Guatemala, Russia and Cambodia. That's a nice journey outside of our insulated pocket of Vermont.

This year's Art at Middlebury will also, as always, present different voices from throughout time as well. The Museum of Art's exhibit, "Votes... for Women?" will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote in the US. Dr. Elizabeth Otto will discuss gender fluidity and avant-garde modern design in her talk titled "Queer Bauhaus" on Sept. 11. The Heath Quartet will present six Bach concerts throughout the year to celebrate the composer's 250th birthday and the vocal ensemble Stile Antico will breathe new life into renaissance women at their Nov. 9 concert. This year's art comes from many stretches of the human experience.

While the arts' origins bring novelty to our campus, its content is even more valuable. Art gets at the core of human experiences. We will see struggle and pain in "SEVEN," a desire to shape the future in "Votes... for Women?," dreams and other worlds in Professor Lida Winfield's dance "IMAGINARY," love and fear in the J-term musical "Light in the Piazza," and so much more. These are the subjects we find compelling in art, of course, because these are the themes we find compelling in life.

In a sense, these pieces of art are snippets of life experience, from across time and space, that we can relive. Through them, we can better understand what moves people and why the world beats to the rhythm that it does. Hopefully, it better prepares us, when our chance comes, to contribute our part to the world, as Walt Whitman said, to "contribute a verse." To this end, the art brought to Middlebury might be as important a part of our education as anything else.

The Librarian Is In

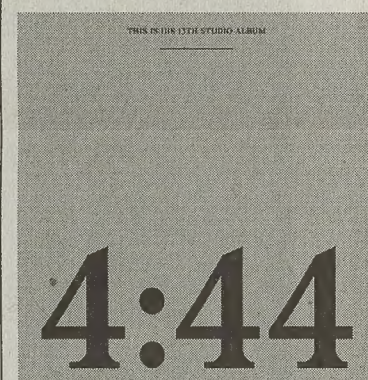
By **KATRINA SPENCER**
Guest Columnist

Katrina Spencer is a Librarian at Davis Family Library.

In summary: A great listen for anyone interested in examining and undoing the impacts of toxic black masculinity.

This album is the most striking I've encountered from recent memory and I mean that in reference to its content and to its dissemination. First of all, Jay-Z is one of the most powerful celebrities in Hollywood and the history of rap music moguldom. Knowing the reach of his influence, he chose to publicly expose the ideologies that threatened his intimate relationships on the world stage. Moreover, he did so on his terms: dissatisfied with musical artists not receiving enough of the financial benefit from their productions, he created his own platform, Tidal, and releases music on it selectively, providing users access for a subscription fee. Now I can't call Tidal a "success," per se, but what I can call it is a bold, confident and defiant move. If hip-hop is anything, isn't it bold, confident and defiant? Its swagger and braggadocio known in every corner of the world?

And let us not forget the music video "The Story of O.J." that accompanied the release of 4:44! It's an animated music video of a black male protagonist caricature attempting to navigate the world of the rich while ignoring his oppressed racial identity. (The "O.J." in the title of the song refers to Orenthal James "O.J." Simpson, a famous football figure who was tried for the murder of his wife, Nicole Simpson, in 1994 and was later incarcerated on unrelated armed robbery and kidnapping charges in 2007.) Jay-Z, along with his wife, Beyoncé Knowles, who needn't even be named, shake the musical world every time they release music. And I don't mean just tremors and aftershocks: I mean earthquakes.



4:44
Jay-Z, 2017

They both seem to be expressing a desire to be as transparent with their fans as possible without betraying their privacy. So, they tell us about the drama of their marriage, their hidden demons and their efforts to stabilize their union after the hard work of repair has been done. What has touched my heart about this album is that Jay-Z critically examines toxic black masculinity in a very open, honest and public way. He acknowledges that the ruthless attitudes he had when he was a youth who dealt drugs no longer serve the loving relationships of his middle age in which he finds himself a father and a husband. He intimates that his ego nearly caused him to lose his wife. And he underscores the importance of creating a legacy that will serve his offspring. This vernacular is not one we hear often in the hip-hop world. More often we hear of women being seen as disposable, written off as disloyal "bitches" and "hoes." We hear of the use and abuse of recreational drugs. We hear of crazy nights in the club. But how often do you hear a hard-edged rapper state that he almost lost all that he valued and decided to change before it was too late? The mere novelty of this message had me playing this disc on repeat (though I know you all stream). Its content is a message to everyone who admires the power that accompanies celebrity: a cautionary tale that incites others to recalibrate their values and to align them in ways that help them to sustain relationships that are of worth.

I recommend this album to any young man who has been inundated with misogynistic messages and has struggled to understand how our society reconciles its relentless appetites for women as irresistible "ride or dies" and simultaneously refers to us as "bitches," "hoes," "thots" and "milfs."

"Middlebury Ikea": A tour of 75 Shannon St.

By **SABINE POUX**
Editor in Chief

Check out the online version of this article at go/campus for more photos of the new space.

Seventy-five Shannon St. is a lot like an Ikea dresser. If you unpacked and assembled a piece of the Swedish brand's furniture in your dorm last week, you're already partly privy to what the building's construction looked like for Project Manager Tom McGinn.

"The pre-engineered building manufacturer designed it, engineered it, manufactured the parts and sent it to us," he said. "And we took it off the truck, stood it up and bolted it together."

Unlike an "Kallax" shelf or a "Pöäng" armchair, the new steel-framed building — which the college is calling "75 Shannon Street" or the "interim academic space," but which some faculty refer to as the "Middlebury Ikea" — measures in at 22,000 square feet. The first floor is dedicated almost entirely to offices for Sociology, Anthropology, Religion, and Political Science professors displaced from the construction on Munroe Hall, although "offices" may be too strong a word. They're more open-air cubicles, equipped with shelves and desks.

Seven "meeting rooms" stemming off from the main work space offer a more private alternative for office hours

and small conferences. Those are fitted with small circle tables, television monitors, and white noise machines, to keep chatter from seeping through.

Upstairs, things are a bit roomier. Fourteen computer science faculty and staff have moved into full-sized offices from their previous quarters in Bicentennial Hall, to accommodate the department's growing need for more space. There are also four research labs, much like those in BiHall, and four classrooms.

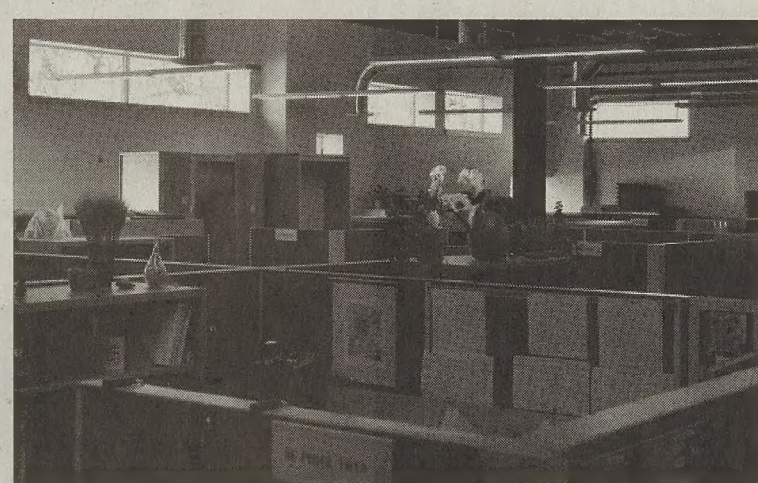
Each floor has its own kitchenette and common study space, and on the first day of classes, students are already plugging away at homework there between classes. Natural light pours in through large mountain-facing windows, some of the space's most distinctively modern features.

Commenters on last year's newsroom article about the building voiced fears that its modern style would clash with the college's quintessential grey-stone architecture. But McGinn said that the building's physical location on campus permitted more creative freedom.

"Because we're on the edge of campus, we thought that we could do something a little different," he said.

"And we could do it for a lower cost than what you would spend for a central campus building," he added.

The building's modernity extends past the aesthetic realm. While Munroe



SABINE POUX / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
The lower floor of the new space has 43 workstations and seven meeting rooms.

was an energy "sieve," the new space is well-insulated and lit with LED lighting, and there's a bike rack out front for sustainable commuters. The bathrooms are gender neutral, an intentional upgrade to Munroe's single-gender toilets.

By June 1, 2020, the Munroe staff will move back into their new(ish) digs. At the same time, the college will empty out Warner Hall and repeat the process with that building's staff. Then the same with Johnson Memorial Building and the Adirondack House, with other renovations to be determined.

There's no definitive cap date for

the CS department's occupation of the space, and McGinn is unsure whether the college will even need to build another space.

"We haven't reached the point where we think a new academic building is needed to accommodate the college," he said. "We have other projects that are taking priority over a new academic building. Those are what we're working on now."

The college lists its future projects on page nine of the 2008 Master Plan. The construction of Munroe marks the first phase of that plan.

Off-Broadway babies: PTP

By **SARAH BOYLE**
Arts and Academics Editor

So, you want to be a Broadway star? For a few chosen Middlebury students, this dream becomes a reality each summer with the Potomac Theatre Project.

The Potomac Theatre Project, or PTP/NYC, is a Middlebury Theatre Department program that allows undergraduate students to be a part of the professional theatre world while still studying at the college. The project was founded in 1987 by Professors Cheryl Faraone, Richard Romagnoli and Boston University Professor Jim Petosa who were "determined to establish a dynamic and provocative company that would also provide a bridge to professional theatre for aspiring young students," according to the company's website. Students work alongside Actor's Equity professionals and professors on two different productions that run in an Off-Broadway theatre in New York City for five weeks throughout the summer.

This program is unique to Middlebury and cannot be found at any other liberal arts college. Students are able to see what the "real world" of professional theatre is like while working with established actors and learning from their professors. Many of the Actor's Equity professionals are Middlebury alumni who were originally students at PTP.

Students audition for the two summer productions at the college in a more personal setting than others in the industry. Zachary Varricchio '21 said this was a major draw for him to do the program because he knew how other students had to deal with "huge, cattle-call type auditions" to work in professional theater. The addition of having the program led by Middlebury professors made his decision even more clear. "To have a program that's run by your own professors with intimate auditions is almost unheard of," he said.

Madeline Ciocci '20, who has been a part of PTP for two summers, says that the special connections between students and Equity actors are also what make the program so impactful. "It's really exciting to get to know them, their craft, and their process, to learn from them."

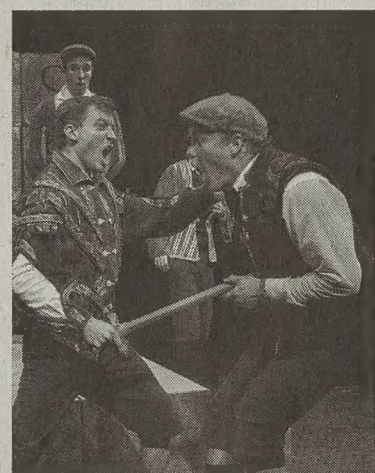
Varricchio said that observing

the professionals at work contributed to "some of the biggest artistic growth I had this summer...[they] really inspired me to do my best and take some of their habits to raise my work to a higher caliber."

Students at PTP are incorporated into every facet of the production, not just performing onstage. The entire cast and crew work together to help with marketing, business planning, and even set and costume design.

This deep-dive into the intensity of the Off-Broadway world is eye-opening and exciting for students who have been involved in theater previously. "I've been doing theatre for almost my whole life, but not until I did PTP did I understand not only how much emotional work theatre can be, but also how exhausting it can be in a physical sense," Ciocci said. "It's a life that's totally and completely exciting, but also one that takes a wild amount of constant energy and commitment."

The added responsibilities involved in being a member of the company is more realistic to what the professional world is like, which Varricchio appreciated coming from a college theater setting. At shows at the college, cast and



COURTESY PHOTO
Students and alumni in a performance of "Dog's Hamlet."

This season, the company put on two productions, "Dog's Hamlet," "Cahoot's Macbeth," two plays often performed together by Tom Stoppard and "Havel: The Passion of Thought," written by Harold Pinter. Václav Havel and Samuel Beckett. "Dog's Hamlet" is a play where three young boys try to confuse a driver by speaking "Dogg," a language that is comprised of English

both in a controlling state while under surveillance by a hidden government agent.

The other cast performed "Havel: The Passion of Thought," which is composed of five one act plays that expose the challenges living in an oppressive Communist state. These plays were once considered so controversial that they were banned in Czechoslovakia, leaving actors to perform them in private homes and distribute them illegally.

This season's choice of plays is in line with PTP's focus on art that critically examines the world outside of the theater. On their website, the organization states how since its inception, PTP's work has "addressed the necessity and difficulty of art, homelessness, censorship, pornography, AIDS, totalitarianism, apartheid and gender wars -- always in passionate, deeply human terms."

When asked about what he wanted audiences to take away from "Dog's Hamlet" and "Cahoot's Macbeth," Varricchio said that the cast hoped that "the audience would think about how their actions have been complicit and how they have been resistant to oppressive systems today."

Ciocci, a member of the "Havel" cast, felt that when she was "working on this set of plays that investigates resistance and dissidence under an oppressive regime, it's impossible to not think about how timely the content feels."

She elaborated on a specific moment in the play where a character, Stanekova is forced to decide whether or not to protest a fellow artist's incarceration because of his activism or to "continue to subtly fight while existing within an unethical system." She felt that this crisis when deciding which way to act against oppression to be relevant in today's world where "it's not clear which actions will yield the best results, and which actions you'll be able to live with and respect yourself for."

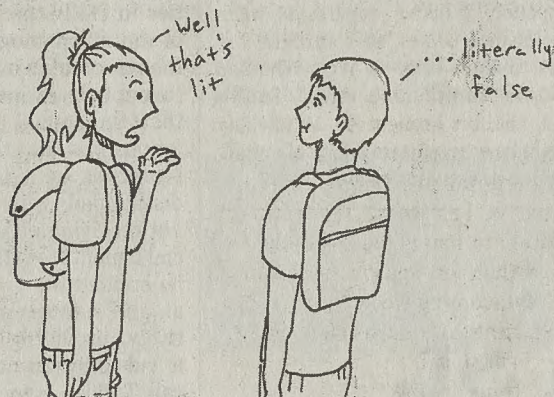
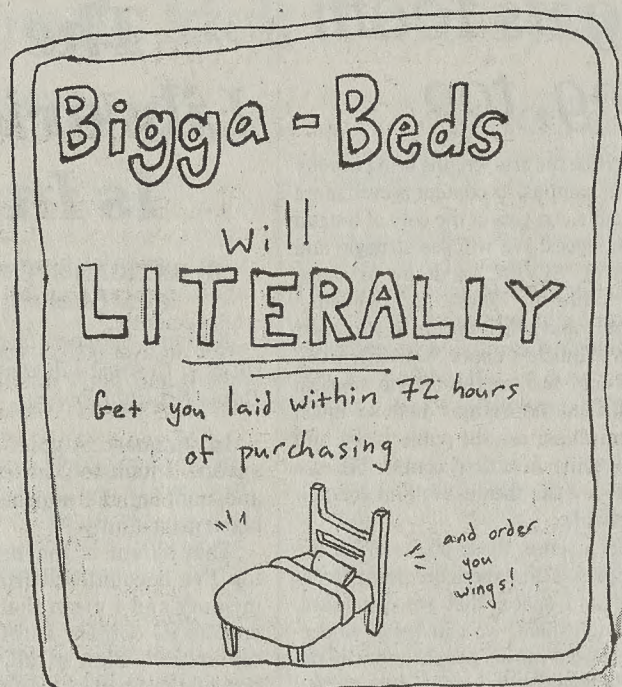
PTP co-founder, co-artistic director, director of "Dog's Hamlet," "Cahoot's Macbeth" and Chair of the Theatre Department Cheryl Faraone stated in the season's introduction video that these plays are "the best kind of theatre; it makes you think, and it makes you feel, which has been kind of a PTP mantra for most of our 33 years."



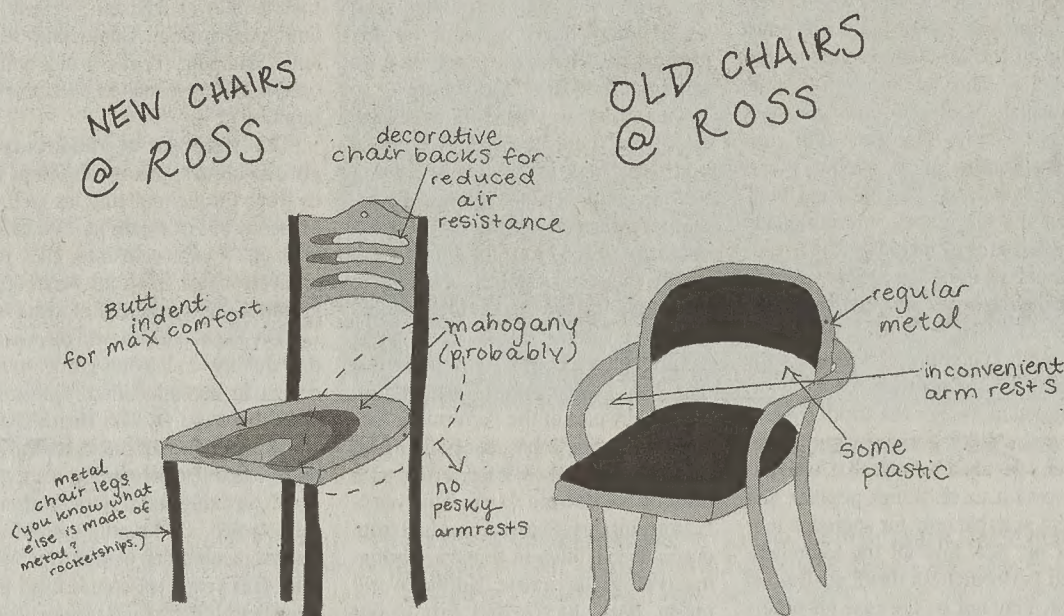
COURTESY PHOTO
Olivia Christie '19, Emily Ma '21 and Katie Marshall '21 in "Cahoot's Macbeth."

crew members often have their designated roles with not that much overlap. PTP is more the "classic theater company experience, where the actors are in charge of run crew, and building sets, and everything else," said Varricchio.

words that mean the opposite of what speakers are used to. The play then turns into a 15-minute interpretation of "Hamlet." The same cast also performed "Cahoot's Macbeth," which consists of actors performing Mac-



By JENNY MOSS



By PIA CONTRERAS

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01/16
01/23

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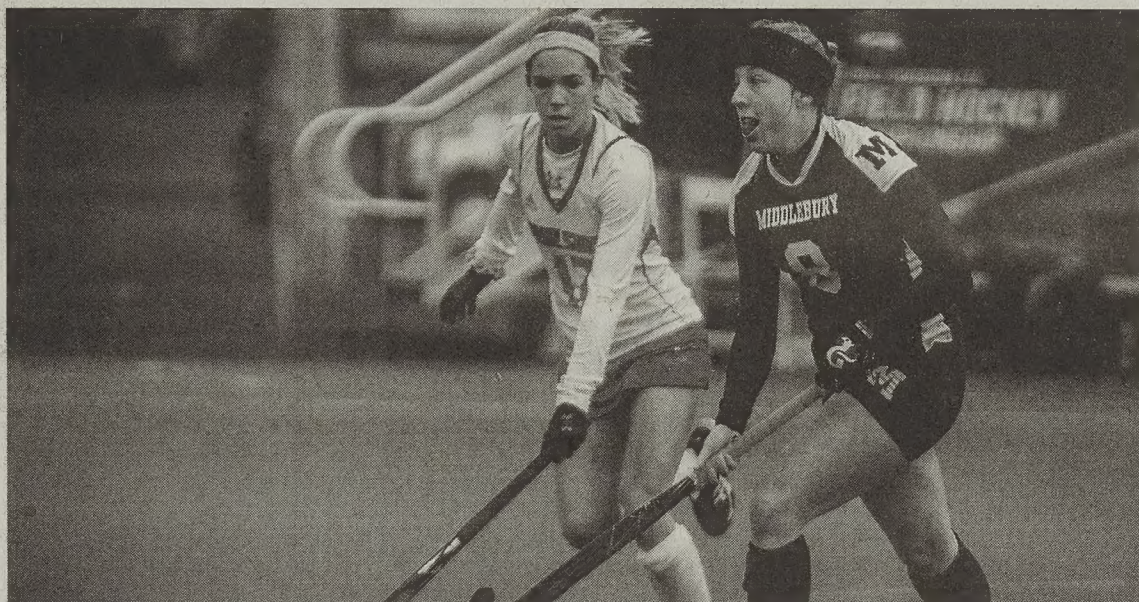
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Questions? Comments? Concerns?

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Isabel Chandler '21 scans the field looking to pass the ball.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Last year's champs stay hungry

By **DAN MIGUEL ESPINOSA**
Senior Sports Editor

The 2019 Middlebury field hockey team returns to the hunt this September, seeking to replicate their success from last season as defending NCAA Champions. They are currently ranked No. 1 amongst all Division III Field Hockey teams.

Fortunately, the Panthers return most of their productive players from last season. Junior midfielder Erin Nicholas '21, who earned Nescac Player of the Year in 2018, led last year's team in goals (17), assists (11) and points (45). Should Nicholas continue her output from last year, the Panthers will have a lethal contributor on both ends of the field. Senior midfielder Marissa Baker

'20 should also make an impact this season after having been named First Team All-Nescac.

Lastly, one of the most important components to the Panthers' success doesn't score goals, attempt saves, or dish out passes; Coach Katharine DeLorenzo, the 2018 NESCAC Coach of the Year, looks to implement her expertise in bringing squads to championship form.

DeLorenzo emphasizes forgetting past successes and having a short-term perspective.

"Some of Coach DeLorenzo's things are focusing on one game at a time, not talking about winning, and not talking about last season," Nicholas said.

The Panthers' offensive strategy follows a similar philosophy: the team makes adjustments and

doesn't cling onto what made them successful previously.

"Last year, we'd work the ball on the outside a lot. Now, we're working to transfer through the midfield a lot more and really utilize our central players," Nicholas said, when asked about what improvements the team was hoping to make.

Such adjustments appear to be working.

The Panthers began their season on a roll, having already shut-out Wesleyan 7-0 on the road on Sept. 7. Their matchup the very next day, however, proved to be trickier. The Panthers produced just two goals against University of New England in the first three quarters. Thankfully, they gained momentum in the last quarter, ultimately emerging victorious, 5-1.

It's no fantasy — college football is back

By **LAUREN BOYD**
Sports Writer

The Panther football team is in the midst of preparing for a successful 2019 campaign, looking to improve on last season's 5-4 record. Last year, the Panthers had an impressive 5-4 run, but the team will look to increase their wins in the next few months by working faster and harder in the off season.

In their first game of the season, the team will face the Williams Ephs — a longtime rival and huge competitor for the Panthers. In 2018, the squad took home the win, with a 21-10 victory on Williams turf. This year, the team will be looking to do the same, but this time on their home field.

Nescac competition will also feature dominant Tufts and Trinity teams. Last year, the Panthers fell to both teams, but will look to prove their off-season hard work in the upcoming weeks.

Starting at quarterback is junior Will Jernigan '21, who saw some time on the field last year. Skilled in both the run and pass game, Jernigan is working to lead the Panther offense behind a stout offensive line, with senior wide receiver Max Bochman '20 leading the routes. Captain offensive lineman Kevin Woodring '19 will head the offensive line for Jernigan as the team takes on Williams this upcoming weekend. With two weeks of preseason under their belts, the players are well-prepared for the season.

"The biggest thing we've been focusing on in preseason is doing the little things well. As a team we're going to make mistakes, but if we can correct the smallest things, we will be a much better football team," Woodring said, when asked about their preseason preparation. "My offensive line coach consistently says to us, if we, as a unit, get 1% better each day, over time that adds up and sooner or later we'll be a very good football team."

"The little things come down to knowing your assignment, being in the right place and executing your assignment with good technique. This is what our head coach, Bob Ritter, preaches to us everyday at practice and is the reason we spend so much time watching film

and walking through plays/formations just so we are mentally aware of what's going on, so that come game time we can play fast and execute efficiently."

With an average of 137.2 rushing yards and 183.3 passing yards in the 2018 season (combined for a total of 320.6 yards), the 2019 squad will look to increase these numbers behind Jernigan, Bochman, Woodring and the Panther offense.

The defense will also stand strong with seniors Wyllis McKissick '20 at linebacker and Alex Norton '19 on the defensive line, with a host of other Panthers filling in the field. In 2018, the Panthers accumulated 652 tackles and 11 sacks in their nine games, numbers these seniors hope to increase in their upcoming campaign.

Max Rye '21 and Carter Massingill '20 will handle the bulk of the punting and kick game, respectively.

With a good amount of senior leadership, as well as strength in the younger grades, this year's team will look to improve on its solid 2018 season. For team goals this season, the players will be looking to go 1-0 each week, with hopes of attaining the championship.

"The cliché answer to [the question of goals for the season] would be to obviously win a championship and for this team that is certainly attainable," Woodring said, "The one goal we strive for each week is to go 1-0. If we go can go 1-0 against the team we're playing that week, well, we will end up as a very good football team. This is achievable through having excellent team chemistry, having diligent film study and flying around and having high energy practices."

If the season ends up as successful as their preseason, this team will prove strong enough to outplay their Nescac competition.

"So far through preseason, we've had excellent practices. Our energy has been great, people have been dedicated to studying film and learning their assignments and most importantly, our team has gelled into a cohesive unit. I look forward to seeing what our team can do this year, we can surprise many people with the talent that we have on this football team," Woodring added.

Cross country preps for another good run

By **JORDAN HOWELL**
Sports Writer

With the new school year comes a new season of cross country, and the men's and women's cross country teams are aiming to surpass the success that they experienced last season. The men ended last season with a third place finish in the Nescac Championships and a 15th place finish in the NCAA Championships. The women ended last season by winning the Nescac Championships as well as capturing eighth place in the NCAA

Championships.

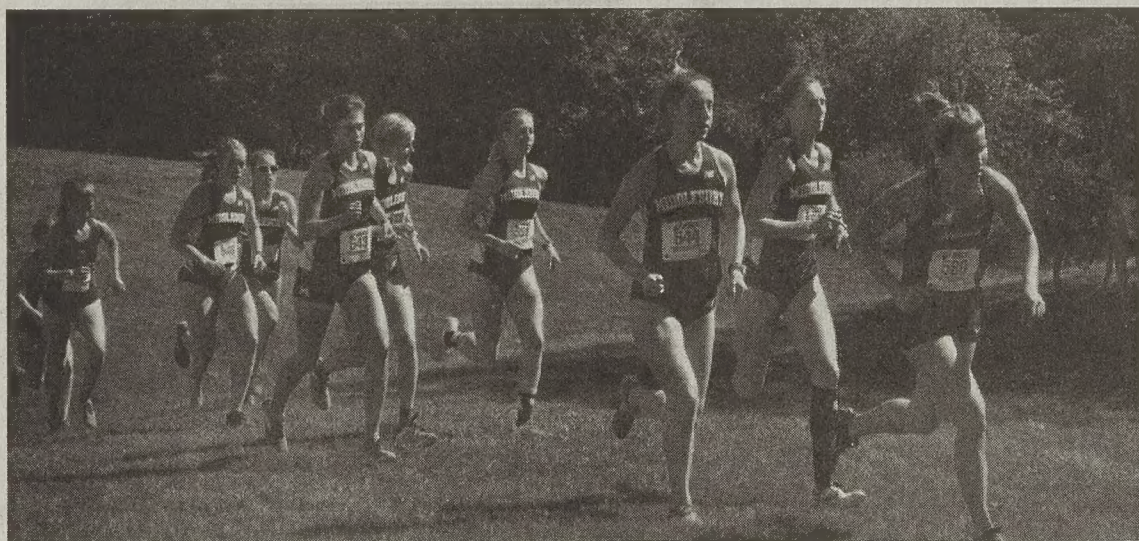
"Our main goal is to keep everyone healthy and see everyone reach their peak at the right time," Anna Willig '20 said.

The Panthers took their first step towards reaching their peak at the Vermont Tech Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 7. Both the men's and women's teams captured first place in their respective races. For the men, the Panthers captured 12 of the first 17 places, with Henry Fleming coming in first. For the women, the Panthers captured 13 of the first 17 places. Talia Ruxin

'20 placed first amongst all runners.

"Team spirits are very high right now," Willig said. "We have had a fantastic week of training during preseason and are very excited about everyone who's new to the team this year. We have a strong, deep, talented team, and everyone is excited to see what we can do this year."

Already on track with their goals, the cross country team will be prepping for the Bates Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 14.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The Women's Cross country team finished eight in last year's NCAA Championships.

Men's golf ready to tee off

By **JACK KAGAN**
Sports Editor

Middlebury men's golf kicks off their fall season this weekend, Saturday, Sept. 14–Sunday, Sept. 15, as the hosts of the Duke Nelson Invitational.

The team returns to the Ralph Myre Golf Course having lost four seniors. The Panthers will have to work to replace the contributions of Reid Buzby '19 and Philippe Mo-

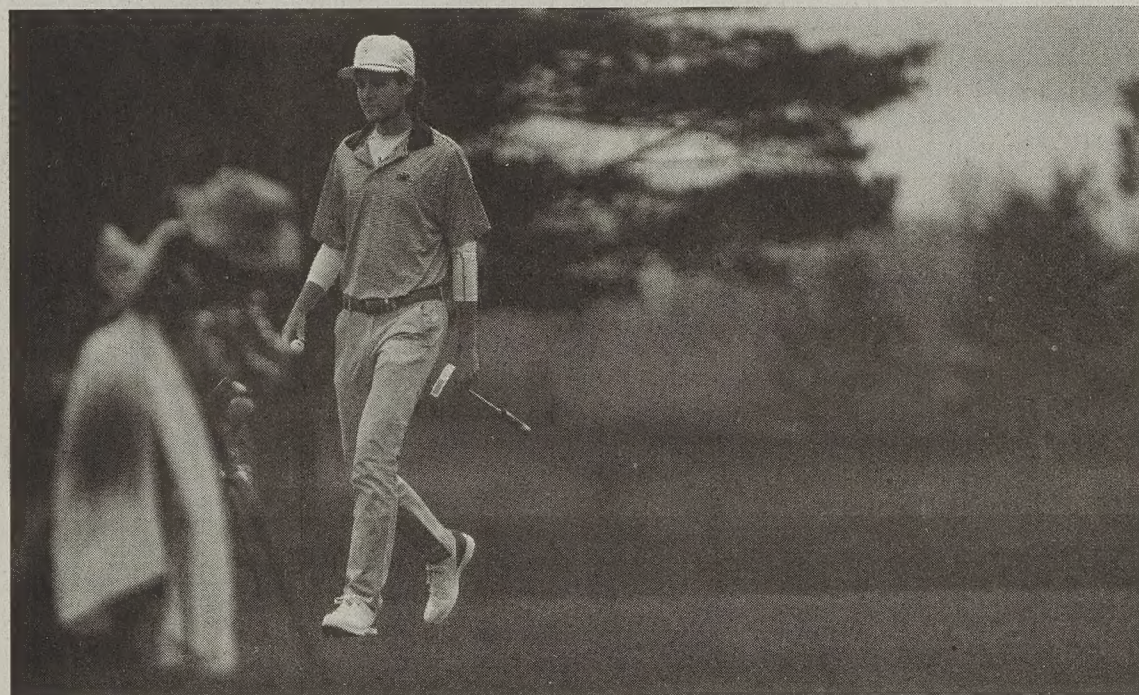
rin '19, who were mainstays on the course last year.

The team adds three freshmen, Hogan Beazley '23, Anthony King '23, and Sean McGarrity '23 to the mix, who hope to slot in and make an impact. They will be sure to look to captains David Packer '20 and Jeffrey Giguere '20, who returns after missing the fall competitions while abroad in Italy.

The men will travel to Williamstown next weekend for the Wil-

liams Fall Invitational, in preparation for the Nescac Championship Qualifier the weekend thereafter, starting Saturday, Sept. 28. The team will look to this weekend to kick off their quest to win the conference, in which they placed third last season.

Concluding the fall season will be the Saratoga Invitational in Saratoga Springs, New York from Saturday, Oct. 12th–Sunday, Oct. 13.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Phin Choukas '22 tied for ninth place in last year's Nescac Championship.

Women's tennis adds fresh faces to experienced lineup

By **DAN MIGUEL ESPINOSA**
Senior Sports Editor

Women's tennis is back on the Proctor Courts after a successful fourth-place finish last Spring.

The women will battle in four tournaments this fall. Their season kicks off at Williams College for the Lindsay Morehouse Invitational on Sept. 13.

Turnover from last year was minimal, with only Christina Pucenell '19 graduating, and three incoming freshmen joining this year's squad. Juniors Emily Bian and Ann Martin Skelly will not be competing this semester because the two are studying abroad in

Australia and Scotland respectively.

Despite their absences, plenty of experience will be guiding the Panthers thanks to the presence of five seniors.

Expect Heather Boehm '20, the 2019 NESCAC Player of the Year and beloved Campus Sports Editor, to dominate singles and doubles. Katherine Hughes '20, should also excel in singles and doubles when paired with Skylar Schossberger '20.

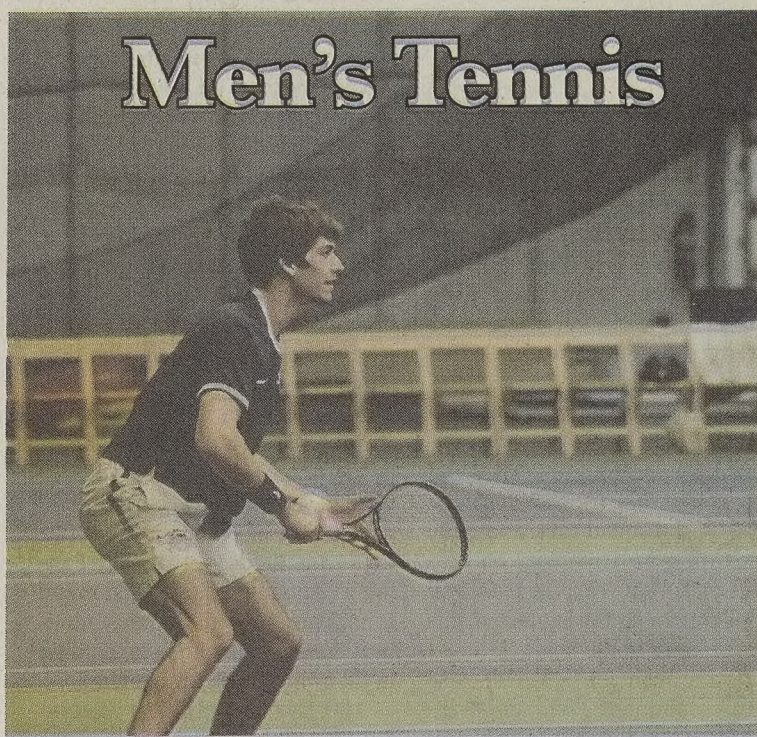
Maddi Stow '20 will be a force on both the singles and doubles end, and Catherine Blazye '20 will hopefully be making a return to the court after a difficult year off due to an injury.



SCAN ME

Fall Sports Previews

Men's Tennis



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By JACK KAGAN
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's tennis team is entering the 2019 fall season having lost a class of four seniors, including standouts Lubo Cuba '19 and Noah Farrell '19. Cuba and Farrell had career winning percentages of .802 and .725, respectively, and will be missed atop the lineup.

Filling the gaps in both the singles and doubles core will be three first-year recruits who make up the fourth-ranked recruiting class, as reported by tennisrecruiting.net. Leading the pack is Aidan Harris '23, a 4-star recruit out of Indianapolis. Harris was the No. 1 player in Indiana and a top-60 recruit in his class.

A recruit of similar stature, Robby Ward '23 out of Wilmington, Delaware also figures to play a role in the lineup. Ward was also the top player in his state, and was ranked No. 78 in his class. Middlebury also adds unranked recruit Andrew Mueller '23

from Guatemala.

Though they lost valuable pieces, the Panthers retain considerable depth returning from last season. The combination of juniors Adam Guo '21, Andre Xiao '21, and Nate Eazor '21 all return as upperclassmen, having made an impact in their first two years with the program which saw the Division III national title return to Middlebury.

The lone first-year representative in the starting lineup from last season, Stanley Morris '22, will look to solidify a spot in the middle of the ladder, while former four-star and two-star recruits David Vily and Zach Hilty will compete with the incoming first-years to round out the lineup.

Leading the squad will be seniors Weston Brach '20, Aleksander Samets '20 and Alex Vanezis '20. Only Vanezis has seen significant time in the lineup during his three years on the team, and the trio will

look to fill the void left by the graduates' leadership as well as their play.

"After winning the championship in 2018, the atmosphere...coming back to campus felt a bit complacent, as if we were taking too many things for granted ... Our success this year hinges upon how quickly we can establish the habits of a championship team, especially since we lost [Farrell] and [Cuba]," said Vanezis of the captains' goals this year.

The Panthers finished last spring with a tight loss to Emory in the Division III National Championship semifinals, but before they can start their campaign to return to the championship stage, as they did in 2018, they embark on a fall slate of individual tournaments.

This campaign begins at home this weekend with the Middlebury Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 14. The men will also compete in the ITA Regional Championships hosted by Colby College on Sept. 27.

By JENNY LANGERMAN
Sports Writer

Women's soccer is hoping to feed off the momentum of a whirlwind 2018 season and come into this season at the top of their game. The Panthers rounded out last season with a Nescac title and NCAA Final appearance -- becoming the first team ever to do so in Middlebury women's soccer history.

Despite coming off of a historic run, Head Coach Peter Kim is hoping to channel all of the team's energy into moving forward, and acknowledges that the new year brings a blank slate.

"The team understands that this is

a brand new season, and is extremely motivated to make it a successful season," said Kim. "We're all looking forward to the season ahead, and not thinking about last year's success."

With the majority of the squad returning and fresh faces bringing a crucial depth to the team, focusing on the present shouldn't be too difficult for these Panthers.

"Last year we had over 10 different goal scorers and a big squad so our depth is definitely our biggest strength. We have great team chemistry too," said Captain Fran Magruder '20. "Preseason has been very successful, and we've developed a very positive team culture with the help of our awesome first year class."

There is no question that the Panthers are hungry. They plan to take each game just as seriously as the next.

"We want to improve every game and never let up. Ideally that includes winning out of conference games and Nescac games too. But we keep our eyes fixed firmly on one game at a time," said Magruder.

So far, it seems Middlebury intends to keep that promise. The team kicked off the season this past week with three consecutive wins, including one against Wesleyan, a conference opponent. The Panthers will get back to business when they play Plattsburgh on the road on Wednesday, Sept. 11.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Women's Soccer



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Men's Soccer

By ERIK ARVIDSSON
Sports Writer

The Middlebury men's soccer team returns to action this fall after winning their final 10 regular season games and earning an NCAA tournament berth. The Panthers will look to build on this momentum as they chase the elusive Nescac title. Leadership appears to be strong; Ben Potter '20 and Aidan Robinson '20 will take over as captains, while Head Coach Alex Elias '08 will embark on his second season at the program.

The Panthers began their season this past week with games against Norwich and NESCAC rival Wesleyan. The Panthers took care of Norwich 2-0, with Potter

'20 scoring off a volley in the 12th minute and Drew Goulart '20 sealing the deal in the 70th minute. Wesleyan presented a tougher test for the Panthers. After 90 minutes and two overtime periods, the Panthers had to settle for a draw. While not a terrible result, hitting the post twice made the Panthers feel like this was their game to win.

"It was a difficult game against Wesleyan on Saturday. They were a well-organized team and difficult for us to break down," said Captain Ben Potter '20. "That being said, we still felt like we had the better of the game and created some great chances to build off going forward."

Looking ahead, the Panthers

will travel to Maine this weekend to face Bowdoin in their second Nescac game of the season. Just a few days later on Tuesday, Sept. 17, the Panthers will play their home opener against Mt. St. Mary of New York at 4 p.m. The Panthers return many of their key contributors from last season, including eight of their top ten goal scorers.

Evident from their offseason preparation, the Panthers are ready to attack the season.

"Everyone came in fit and ready to compete throughout our grueling schedule," said Tanner Hellickson '21. "We're all looking forward to our next big Nescac game against Bowdoin this weekend."

By HEATHER BOEHM
Sports Editor

Panthers women's volleyball is coming out swinging. Despite graduating three crucial starters, the women showed only strength and experience on the court this past weekend when they cruised past both Manhattanville College and Union College.

It is clear that the Panthers have their eyes set on a Nescac title. Although the women had a strong start to the 2018 season, they fell short in a heartbreaking loss to Tufts in the quarterfinals of the conference tournament.

Three senior captains will lead the team to achieve this goal including Gigi Alper '20, Chellsa Ferdinand '20 and Beth Neal '20.

"We're looking to bookend the

senior's volleyball careers and capture the Nescac title once more, securing a spot in the NCAA tournament," Alper said. "While we lost three impactful starters, our freshman class is deep and ready to step on the court to aid our run at the title."

This year, the team will make defense their primary focus.

"This year our team is defensively oriented," Alper said. "We want to play as a unit, gaining contributions from every position. Our goal is to be scrappy and to not let any ball hit the floor without effort."

The women will journey to St. Michael's on Tuesday, Sept. 10 and host their first home game against Colby-Sawyer on Wednesday, Sept. 18.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Volleyball

By MICHAEL SEGEL
Sports Writer

To begin their fall season, the women's golf team will compete in the St. Lawrence Invitational at the Oliver D. Appleton Golf Course in Canton, N.Y. on September 7 and 8. There they will contend with Nescac rivals such as Hamilton, and also out of conference teams such as Vassar and New York University.

The team will attempt to make improvements from last season, when they had difficulty finishing above third place in any of the tournaments, only doing so with a second place finish at the St. Lawrence Invitational almost exactly a year ago. Led by the ever improving Chloe Levins '20, this year's team will look to crack their way to a top spot.

Senior captain and last year's Nescac Player of the Year, Levins will be instrumental in the team's

push for a top spot.

"It's important for me to enter this season without expectations," she said. "I'm really looking forward to learning more about myself, building on the competitive base I've established over the past three years, and mentoring the four first-years on and off the course."

Levins can be counted on to finish in the top 10 of any tournament she participates in, and is also coming off a victory in the Vermont State Women's Golf Invitational. Under her leadership, the team is well positioned to see positive change.

Levins sees a great season in the making, which will be aided significantly by the size of the team.

"In past years, we've been limited by our size but with 10 experienced golfers on the roster this year, we're looking forward to having a great season," she said.

"The depth of our team will be our biggest asset."

Another potential key contributor on the team is classmate Blake Yaccino '20. Yaccino participated in all but two events, finishing outside the top 10 only once and never surpassing 79 strokes. Yaccino was an All-Nescac Second Team honoree in 2016 and 2017, and finally became a First Team honoree last year with five top-four finishes.

Coach Bill Mandigo, who is entering his 12th season atop the program, should have a great deal of talent and depth on his roster and looks poised for a great season. With Levins and Yaccino at the reins, this year's Panthers look to not only improve upon their performance last year, but to make a strong push for the NESCAC championship.



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Women's Golf